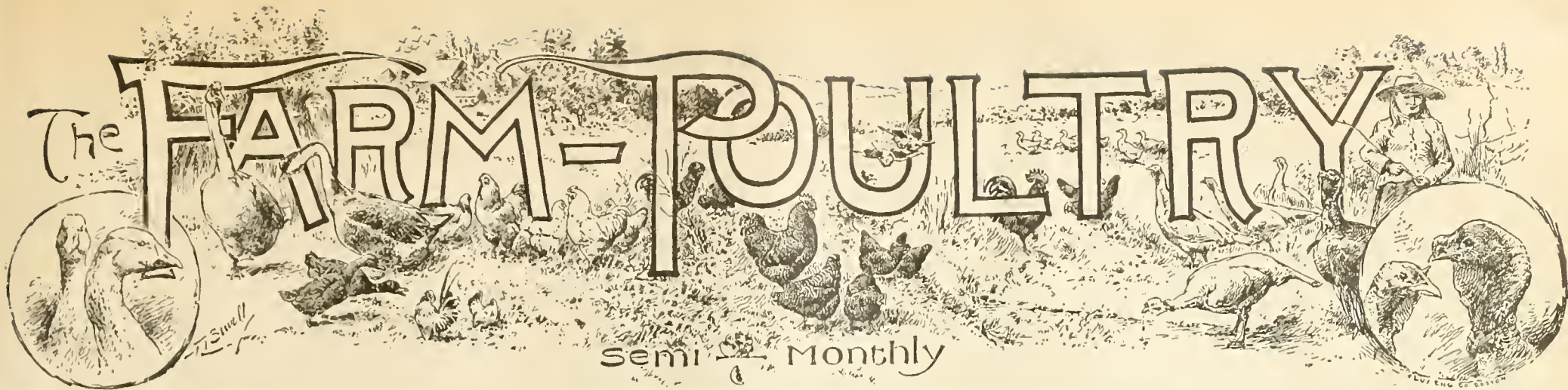


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No. 12.

A Practical Talk on Disease and Its Prevention

IT IS AN unfortunate, but nevertheless a true fact, that disease among poultry has increased to a considerable extent during the last few years, and we find that today fowls do not possess quite the same stamina or constitution as was the case a few years ago. In some measure this may be due to the fact that many poultry keepers force the birds in order to hasten development. If such chickens are killed and marketed no harm ensues, but if they are retained for stock purposes their offspring are liable to be delicate, and to run a greater risk of contracting disease. The habit of using young stock birds is more common than was the case a few years ago; so much importance attaches nowadays to being able to market chickens or other classes of poultry out of season, that breeders have been tempted to depend upon very young stock, as they generally lay much earlier than do more mature birds. A point of the utmost importance in considering the maintenance of the health and vigor of the stock is to only employ for breeding birds that are thoroughly healthy, any which show signs of disease being rigidly excluded. No matter how excellent a bird may be in its markings and outward characteristics, if it shows any indication of disease, then on no account should it be used in the breeding pen. "Like produces like," is an inexorable law of breeding, and if the parent stock have any grave defects they are almost certain to be transmitted to the offspring, probably in an intensified form, and thus, if for no other reason than pounds, shillings, and pence, only thoroughly healthy birds should be employed as breeders.

Nearly all diseases from which fowls suffer can be traced to one of the following causes: (1). Over or rich feeding and impure water. (2). Bad housing. (3). Want of exercise. (4). In and inbreeding. (5). Tainted ground and uncleanness. It is proposed to briefly deal with each of these causes, indicating the most common errors, and the manner in which they can be successfully overcome.

(1). *Over or Rich Feeding and Impure Water.*—A large number of poultry keepers make the great mistake of supplying their fowls with too much food, the result being that the birds quickly lay on fat at the expense of eggs or flesh. A hen in lean hard condition is more profitable than one which is very fat; she lays more eggs, of which a larger percentage are fertile, and con-

tain strong and healthy germs. Rich foods should be avoided, as these have an injurious effect upon the stock birds, ultimately ruining the digestive organs. As far as possible the diet should consist of plain sound food of a nourishing rather than a fattening nature. Fat fowls—save those that are being specially prepared for the table, which are not, of course, included—are rarely profitable; the laying hens produce fewer eggs, a larger percentage of which are infertile; the cocks refuse to perform their work in a satisfactory manner; while the growing chickens develop slower. Several complaints to which fowls are subject are directly caused by their over-

a dung heap or cowbyre; but such a practice must be avoided if the health and vigor of the stock are to be maintained. In hot weather the drinking water should be renewed three times a day, and in the winter twice. If there happens to be a flowing stream or clean pond to which the birds have access, well and good, but should there be any suspicion of impurity the fowls should be kept away from it.

(2). *Bad Housing.*—Many of the sheds in which poultry are housed are altogether unsuitable, and often the most surprising feature is not that the birds are unhealthy, but that they are alive at all. It seems to be a somewhat common impression among many people that anything in the way of housing is good enough for poultry, but fortunately this idea is quietly disappearing. No class of stock responds more readily to good housing than do poultry, and when suitable sleeping quarters are provided, not only are fowls healthier, but they produce more eggs. Elaborate and costly houses are not requisite; in fact, they are quite unnecessary, but the general principles must be regarded, otherwise disease will probably be very prevalent. A fault with many of the poultry houses in this country—one that I must admit I did not observe in the United States—is that the material of which they are built is much too thin, and is insufficient to keep the birds warm during the winter, or cool during the summer. Overcrowding, too, is a common fault that frequently has the most serious consequences, because it is almost certain to have an injurious effect upon the health of the birds. As far as possible, two square feet of flooring should be allowed for every adult, as this gives an abundance of fresh air and space. With the open air form of house two-thirds



Mammoth Bronze Turkey.

fed condition; and other complaints, while not directly the result, are certainly encouraged thereby. Poultry should never be given all they want, as this encourages laziness, the fowls refusing to scratch about and seek their own food. Especially is this the case with those at liberty, as such are liable to find a large quantity of natural food—the best kind they can have.

Particular attention should be paid to the drinking water, as I know of several cases in which an outbreak of disease has been brought about through the fowls drinking stale and impure water. One frequently sees in a farmyard the poultry drinking the drainage from

of this amount is sufficient, because in this case there is so much fresh air constantly circulating throughout the interior.

(3). *Want of Exercise.*—This point is really closely allied to the question of housing, the one depending upon the other to a large extent. As with human beings, so with poultry, if they do not obtain sufficient exercise they are certain to lack vigor and strength. There is no doubt that when circumstances permit, the best method of housing poultry is on the portable house plan, scattering the sheds far and wide about the fields, arable land and pasture alike, and allowing the fowls full



liberty to wander where they will. Under such conditions, the fowls are invariably stronger, with a corresponding reduction in the amount of sickness. It is not always possible, however, to employ this method, perhaps owing to the area available for the poultry being very limited. When, therefore, the fowls have to be enclosed in a run—and, in passing, it may be stated that it is quite possible under these conditions to achieve excellent results—special precautions are necessary to provide them with plenty of exercise. If there is a covered shed attached to the house, the floor should be littered to the depth of a few inches with straw, chaff, dried leaves, etc., and the afternoon grain scattered thereamong. On wet or very cold days, when the birds are better under cover, the following system of feeding may be recommended, involving as it does a good deal of labor on the part of the birds. First thing in the morning only half rations of soft food should be given, followed about 9 A. M. by some grain thrown down in the litter, which will keep the birds busy during the morning. About 2.30 P. M. more grain is scattered, occupying the birds until it is time for them to go to roost. In this manner exercise is encouraged, because if they do not work they have to go hungry. It is a good plan to hang up a cabbage or mangel in the run, suspended to within a foot or eighteen inches of the ground, and the constant jumping up will have a healthful effect. A piece of meat buried a few inches below the ground will afford a good deal of exercise, as the maggots increase with great speed, causing the birds to scratch about in the soil.

(4). *In and Inbreeding.*—No practical farmer ever thinks of breeding from horses, cattle, sheep, or pigs that are closely related to one another, and yet we find that these same men are constantly in the habit of allowing their fowls to in and inbreed to any extent. Frequently when visiting farms I have found that full cousins were mated together, sometimes even brothers and sisters, which cannot have anything but a most injurious effect upon the offspring. In and inbreeding is often merely the result of carelessness, as all the birds are allowed to mix together indiscriminately, and then when the autumn arrives they commence breeding. In some instances inbreeding cannot be avoided; in the formation of a new breed, or in fixing a new color it is necessary to mate closely related birds, but it should always be done most carefully, and only by those who thoroughly understand what they are doing. I have known cases in which one injudicious mating has spoiled the work of years, and it is a point upon which the greatest care must be exercised. Consanguinity causes the chickens to be more delicate, thus entailing considerably greater difficulty in rearing; it retards the development and stunts the growth; in a large measure it reduces the prolificacy of the hens; but perhaps most important of all, it causes the offspring to be very much more liable to disease. Careful observations have proved that when an epidemic breaks out in the poultry yard it is invariably the inbred chickens which are first affected, and it usually attacks them more seriously, while a larger number succumb. Therefore, if upon no other grounds than preserving the health and stamina of the chickens, inbreeding should be avoided.

(5). *Tainted Ground and Uncleanliness.*—Tainted ground is responsible for many of the diseases from which fowls suffer, and yet it is a question that rarely receives the attention it deserves. The chief danger of tainted soil arises when fowls are kept in confinement, but still we often find that even with those at liberty the land over which they are running is far from pure. So long as the grass can be kept growing strongly and vigorously there is small fear of foul ground, as the growth absorbs the manure; it is when the grass becomes worn away that the chief danger arises. The manure constantly falling upon the same small area, and there being nothing to use it up, the land is bound in a short space of time to become so permeated as to be thoroughly unfit for fowls. The question is very often asked in connection with this subject as to how many fowls a certain sized piece of land will accommodate the whole year through. Occasionally one may see in some of the agricultural or poultry journals this question answered, but as a matter of fact to give any stated number is most misleading. It depends very largely upon the class of soil, as some can carry twice as many birds as others; it depends upon the breed of poultry, some being much more active than others, and thus requiring more space; it depends, too, upon the time of year, because during the spring and summer, when there is an abundance of

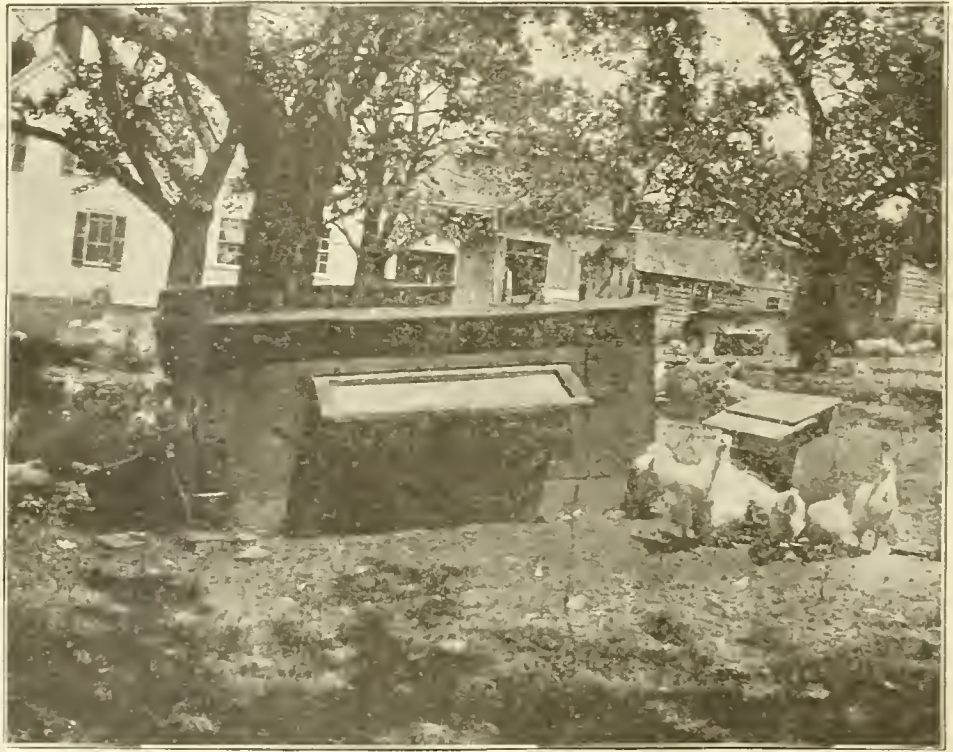
vegetable growth in the soil, a considerably larger number of birds can be maintained than during the autumn or winter. The number must be varied according to these circumstances, and no hard and fast rule is applicable.

The results of tainted ground are generally quickly noticeable, as the fowls have a sickly appearance, the feathers lose their brilliant lustre, and the wings begin to droop. Roup, gapes, and other ailments speedily show themselves, causing, if not death itself, considerable loss and unpleasantness. One of the greatest advantages to be derived from portable houses is that they so greatly reduce the risk of tainted ground, as they are being constantly moved from one place to another, thus evenly distributing the manure. When it is remembered that each adult fowl drops nearly a hundred weight of manure in the course of a year, the importance of this question will be immediately realized. It is quite possible, however, provided that suitable precautions are taken, to keep a comparatively small run pure for a long time. If the grass is short it should be occasionally swept, in this manner removing a good deal of the manure. Another important point is to always have around the house a space of gravel, upon which the birds should be fed, and if swept once or twice a week this

will have a wonderful effect in preserving the purity of the grass portion. Anyone who has observed poultry will know how fond they are of constantly being near the house, and thus the greater portion of their droppings falls within its immediate vicinity. The shape of the run also has a great bearing upon the length of time it will remain untainted, a long narrow run being much superior to a square one. I have proved by my own experience how true this is, and probably a long and narrow run, containing the same amount of space will remain pure twice as long. It is unnecessary here to go into a full explanation of why this is so, but I may state the fact, which I am confident is quite correct. If the space at one's disposal is very limited it is a good plan to divide it into two equal parts, placing the house in the middle. During one year one-half would be available for the fowls, the other being planted with some quickly growing vegetables, the order being reversed the year following. The vegetable growth has the effect of quickly using up the manure, and in this manner quite a small plot of land can be heavily stocked with poultry for an unlimited number of years. If the soil becomes at all foul it is a good plan to water it with a 1% solution of sulphuric acid, or to apply a light dressing of gas lime.

England.

E. T. BROWN.



Mr. Pattison's Roosting Coop.

Summer Roosting Coops

THE accompanying illustration shows a convenient form of summer roosting coop which is easily made, inexpensive, and not unsightly. So many of the roosting coops made from packing cases and piano boxes present such an uncouth appearance, and frequently are so poorly arranged that it does not seem a bad plan to take the boxes apart and make a fresh start when building a coop.

It is well to bear in mind, also, that a low grade of box boards can be purchased in some localities at a figure which will compare favorably with the present cost of boards taken from piano boxes and other larger packing cases, when the labor of taking apart is considered. Moreover, when the greater convenience and economy of time in handling new boards is taken into account, the balance may be in favor of using the new material.

The coop illustrated is made from new material (box boards), not matched; is 6 ft. x 3 ft. ground dimensions, and cost little over \$1. The roof, back, end, and front are made in separate sections, and fasten together with screws or hooks, which facilitates storing away flat in the fall. The special feature about this coop is the removable front, which consists of two rectangular frames, one fitting inside the other, halved together at the corners. The larger frame is covered with wire netting on the back, and is held in place in opening in front of coop by two wooden buttons. The smaller frame (covered with cloth or burlap), is hinged at the top to the outer frame, and on cool nights or early in the season may be closed down and held by a button on the bottom of larger frame, where the smaller frame is held open by a

wire attached to roof. The burlap covering sheds rain and protects the chickens from driving storms and hot sun. The double front as described is instantly removable for handling the chicks or cleaning the coop. In dry locations no floor is provided. Three roosts 4 inches wide, and a chick door complete the coop.

The chief advantages are summed up as follows:—plenty of fresh air, protection from storms, cats, rats, skunks, etc.; convenient form for cleaning, and low cost. The food hopper shown in illustration has a projecting cover, which keeps out moisture, solving the rainy day feeding problem very satisfactorily.

Greenland, N. H.

J. C. PATTISON.

The Weight of a Quart of Feed.

According to figures furnished by the Connecticut Experiment Station, the weight of one quart of feed is as follows:—

Cottonseed meal	1.5 pounds.
Linseed meal, old process.....	1.1 "
Gluten meal	1.7 "
Wheat bran, coarse.....	0.5 "
Gluten feed	1.2 "
Wheat middlings, coarse	0.8 "
Wheat middlings, fine	1.1 "
Mixed wheat feed.....	0.6 "
Corn meal.....	1.5 "
Oats	1.2 "
Rye bran	0.6 "
H-O dairy feed.....	0.7 "
Victor corn feed	0.7 "

The Story of the Moneytoburn Poultry Farm

Chapter XXVIII.—Horton Justifies His Reputation.

THE next morning it was snowing heavily. Moneytoburn, after a hurried round of the plant, decided to devote the morning to letter writing. Carter, considering that just at present it was good policy to be busy elsewhere than in the office, announced that he would devote the day to looking over the stock and selecting birds suitable for breeding purposes.

For an hour or more Moneytoburn wrote diligently. Then just as he was about to begin what he designed to be a long chatty letter to an old chum, he was aroused from the reverie into which he had lapsed after reading over the last letter from his friend, by the sound of sleigh bells, and, glancing out of the window, saw that one of the depot teams was wallowing through the snow, and on the seat beside the driver, alert and self complacent, and as indifferent to the storm as anyone could be, sat Horton. Horton jumped from the sleigh, and bidding the driver wait for instructions, approached the office door, reaching it just as Moneytoburn opened it.

"Good morning, Mr. Horton. How are you? Glad to see you. This is quite a surprise. Evidently you don't mind the storm."

"Good morning, Mr. Moneytoburn. I'm nicely, thank you. Never pay any attention to the weather except to dress for it. Ridiculous for people to allow the weather to interfere with their plans or their business. I saw that with this storm there would be nothing doing at the show today, and as I got a telegram from Harrisburg, which makes it necessary for me to go there tonight to look after a contract—eighty incubators we are putting in for the Lackawanna Broiler Company—I just thought I'd run out to look your plant over, and, incidentally, have a talk with your superintendent about incubators and brooders."

"Mr. Carter is somewhere about the place. Sit down, and I'll call him up."

"No, no; no need of that. I'll just go through the houses until I find him. Don't disturb yourself or Mr. Carter on my account."

"If you want to look the plant over, just stay here and be comfortable for a while, and I'll telephone out to the barn and have the man there plow out the paths again. He plowed them once this morning, but they seem to be filling up, and you would find it very disagreeable wading through the snow between the houses. Better send your team back, and have lunch with us."

Horton, nothing loth, dismissed his conveyance. Moneytoburn, after several minutes use of the telephone, announced that Carter, in the farthest house, thought it not advisable to leave until he had completed the sorting of the birds in the section in which he was at work—a matter of a quarter, or perhaps half, of an hour. So he offered the visitor a cigar, and leaned back in his chair, leaving it to Horton to take the initiative in conversation.

Horton, having inspected the weed approvingly, and sniffed it with evident satisfaction, proceeded to light it with the deliberation of the smoker intent on prolonging to the utmost the enjoyment of a choice cigar. That step completed, he puffed for several moments as if oblivious to everything else.

Moneytoburn, watching him, communed with himself somewhat in this way: "It never occurred to me before what an important feature a cigar is in the makeup of some men. That fellow needs a cigar to set him off—a cigar and stylish clothes. Without such accessories he couldn't put up much of a front. Wonder if such appurtenances are as essential to me. I'd hate like the devil to feel that they were."

At length Horton, as if for the moment satisfied, took the cigar from his lips, and holding it quite at arms length, regarded it affectionately as he observed, "A fine cigar, Mr. Moneytoburn—an uncommonly fine cigar—a credit—if you will pardon the personal allusion—to your taste, judgment, and good sense. I've been thinking as I sat here enjoying it, that the kind of cigars a man keeps about him furnish the most accurate possible index of his methods. Your cigars are of the best, not simply because you are a judge of cigars, or happen to prefer that special brand, but because in everything you demand the best. You impress me as one of those

men who know intuitively what is best. Your plant here—from what I have seen as I came along, is evidently a model. Your manager I know by reputation as one of the very best in the business. You selected without doubt the best breeds for your purpose. I expect as a matter of course to find things as fine in detail as they should be to harmonize with the general state of the situation. When I come to a place where I find such conditions I always feel that my work has been done in advance. The hardest thing a salesman with a superior line of goods has to do is to sell to people who are always looking for the cheapest thing they can buy that will answer their purpose."

Under this skillful flattery, Moneytoburn mellowed perceptibly. "Yes," said he, "I always try to have the best in everything. When I began to plan this farm I worked on the principle that everything should be of the best. I did the best I could at the start, but I'm continually finding places where I can improve. Now my superintendent, as you say, is one of the best in the business, yet I haven't found him quite equal to the situation—perhaps no one man would be. So we are on the lookout now for two assistants, working foremen, to relieve him of some of the details of management. I want one good man to handle the laying hens, and another for the chickens."

"I can put you in touch with just the men you want," exclaimed Horton. "We have a man who has been helping us at the shows this winter, will suit you to a T. We'd like to keep him in one of our stores, but he can't be persuaded to work inside for more than a few weeks at a time. He's one of these men that are first class poultrymen, but can't manage the financial side of an undertaking, and he's just about got to the point where he sizes himself up right, and is going to be satisfied to work for someone else. He would be just the man to hatch and grow your chickens. Then for the hens, I know a man who has worked on half the big New York egg farms—went from one to the other to learn all there was to learn. Has a farm of his own, but not big enough for such a business as he is competent to handle. His wife and boys can take care of it without him, so for several years he has been working away from home, and growing all the time. He's one of the fellows that is going to make his mark. Past forty when he turned to poultry, but he really is a wonder. He's thoroughly practical—yet he's got the whole theory of poultry keeping down fine, so that he can apply it and show others how, too. I had a letter from him only last week, asking if I knew of an opening for him. He had been laid up with grip for several weeks, and thought he would rather not go back to the last place he was at. Fact is, he's worth more than any of those fellows can afford to pay, and he's beginning to feel sure enough of himself to stand out for more than a mere laborer's wages."

"If what you say of these men is true—"

"True! I'd swear to every word of it, and more. These men are exceptional. I've drawn it very mild in describing them. It isn't once in ten years that looking for two such men you would find them, and ready to go to work. I begin to think that besides having good judgment you must be one of the men luck always favors."

Here the conversation was interrupted by the entrance of Carter.

"You know Mr. Horton, I presume, Mr. Carter?" said Moneytoburn.

"By sight and reputation only, I believe. This is the first time I have had the pleasure of an introduction."

The two men shook hands. After a few moments general conversation Moneytoburn referred again to the conversation which Carter's entrance had interrupted, telling Carter that Horton happened to be able to recommend to them two men who seemed to be just what they wanted. There was just a trace of suspicion in Carter's manner as he questioned Horton minutely as to the men, their experience and qualifications, but the replies to all his questions were in every way so satisfactory that he could find no special objection to either of the men, and finally it was arranged that Horton should instruct both to visit the farm in person and talk matters over, Moneytoburn agreeing to pay their expenses, whether he hired them or not.

We need not follow Horton in his inspection of the plant. He commended everything—criticised nothing, and went away having said almost nothing about selling goods, leaving Carter and Moneytoburn equally pleased with his visit.

The day following Hopper, the candidate for foreman of the hatching and rearing department, arrived at the farm. He brought with him good references in abundance.

"I've only one fault to find with your references," said Carter, as he glanced them over. "There are too many of them. Here are four from different men you have worked for within the year."

"I could have given you as many more dated within that year," replied Hopper. "That year I worked for the Kingpin Incubator Co., putting in machines and equipments, and starting plants. Every one of them is going smoothly. If you will notice the other testimonials you will find that there are several from men for whom I worked a year, and every one of them would have been glad to keep me. But I always felt that if I was doing well for some one else, I ought to do better for myself, and I'd quit and start in on my own hook. Somehow or other I always had bad luck when running a business for myself, and I've about concluded that I wasn't built for it. I can satisfy you, though, with my work. Nobody ever found fault with that."

"I suppose," observed Carter, "that your preference is for the Kingpin incubators and brooders?"

"Why, yes, I'd take them in preference to any other, though I have used a number of other machines with very good results. I'm fully satisfied, though, in my own mind, that I can get and grow as many chicks with the Kingpin machines as with any, and that the chicks will be even and better at every stage of growth."

"I don't care what make of machine he uses," interposed Moneytoburn, addressing Carter. "I want chicks—lots of chicks, and good ones—and if this man can get them with the Kingpin machines, why we'll have the Kingpin. As you say, 'tis hard to get men to suit; while I can see that 'tis no trouble at all to get good incubators, it seems to me the sensible way is to get your men and get incubators for them."

So Hopper was engaged at \$1,500 a year, agreeing to begin work at once.

It was several days before the other man appeared, and, as the saying is, he "came into town wrong." He reached the farm when both Moneytoburn and Carter happened to be away, and in the two hour interval of waiting for the return of someone who could discuss his business with him, he saw everything, and managed to impress everyone there, from Hart, who was giving the plant and stock a final going over before terminating his engagement, down, with his self-confidence, the lack of basis for it, and his disposition to find fault with everything. Nothing on the place was quite right, yet there was nothing that could not be changed—in accordance with some idea or theory of his to make it work well. He didn't like the shape of the yards. They should and could be made longer. The houses were too high in front. That could easily be remedied by taking out the fronts, extending the roof, and putting in a lower front. It would mean some expense, but the results would soon demonstrate the advantage of his favorite style of house. He knew all about poultry houses, had worked on a score of farms, and seen the advantages and disadvantages of them all. The work on the plant was not properly systematized, the men were working each in his own way. He could change all that, and would do so in the event—which he seemed to consider the most certain thing the future contained—of his being engaged.

So he rattled on, talking at random to every man he met as he walked about, and always as he passed out of ear shot the last man to whom he had spoken and the next last got together to exchange comments. He had been all over the plant once, and was some distance from the house when Carter returned.

"Say, Carter," said Hart, who was in the office when the superintendent arrived, "the other fellow that Horton sent out is here, and 'tis as well you should know before you talk with him that he's proposing to change

Notes on Two South African Fowl Ticks

THIRL we believe, no pest affecting poultry in any part of America that has been so little studied by American investigators as fowl ticks. Complaints in regard to these come to us mostly from the southern states and Hawaiian Islands. The most careful studies of ticks that we have seen have come from Australia and South Africa. In the issue of this paper for Aug. 15, 1902, we reprinted a part of the Australian report. Herewith we present a statement of the South African investigation, as furnished the *Transvaal Agricultural Journal* by Mr. Reginald Bourlay, government poultry expert.

There is, perhaps, no pest in South Africa which is responsible for more deaths among poultry than the tick which is erroneously known in this country as the "tampian." One frequently hears that Mr. A. has lost all of his birds from "fowl sickness," but apparently no effort is made to discover the cause of death beyond holding a few post mortems, which generally reveal little or nothing beyond the fact that the body is strangely devoid of blood. Several cases of this description have been brought to our notice during the past few months, and in each instance, where we have had the good fortune to be able to personally inspect the premises, we have found that fowl ticks were the source of trouble. Unfortunately, one is not, as a rule, told of such cases until the damage is done, or it would have been possible to save the majority of the stock.

The symptoms vary considerably in some instances, and these are generally when the roosts are swarming with ticks; birds which are to all appearances healthy at night are found dead in the morning, as many as twenty being killed in a single night.

In other cases where the fowl ticks are not in such force, it is observed that the birds appear to be mopy and listless, refusing food, and frequently affected with diarrhea; occasionally they will be found to be partially paralyzed, having lost the use of either one or both legs. The presence of diarrhea often leads the poultry keeper to attribute the cause of trouble to enteritis or cholera, and this idea is frequently strengthened by the suddenness of death.

It is worthy of note that heavy losses from ticks usually occur during the earlier part of the summer, and this has led many poultry keepers to think that the young grass has had an injurious effect on the system, and been the cause of death, the explanation being, we believe, in the fact that during the winter months these ticks lie dormant, but with the advent of the warmer weather they wake up and commence to feed. Fowls can frequently be kept in a tick infested house during the colder months of the year without suffering any ill effects, but directly the warm weather arrives the trouble commences.

Fowl ticks do not live on the bodies of poultry as do lice, but follow the habits of the red mite, and secrete themselves in the cracks and crevices of the fowl house, where they lie hidden during the daytime, only emerging at night, when they fasten themselves on to the fowl and suck the blood. An adult tick seems to be capable of obtaining as much blood as it requires in a few hours and drops off at the first appearance of dawn and hides itself; but the young ticks do not seem to be able to satisfy themselves so quickly, and will frequently remain on the birds for several days; it is wonderful what an enormous amount of blood a quantity of these pests will draw out of a fowl's system in a single night, for, as stated before, we have frequently examined dead birds and found the whole body bloodless.

It is not only in dirty and ill kept fowl houses that ticks are found, but also in houses which are kept sweet and clean, for whitewash does not appear to have the slightest effect on them.* Last June we were asked to look at some birds belonging to a lady who was a great enthusiast, and who took care that the house was cleaned out every day and whitewashed every month; she had

lost several birds during the previous summer without being able to discover any cause, but mentioned that on opening one of the birds she had noticed that it did not appear to have a drop of blood in it. As stated, the house was very clean and well kept, but on moving some loose woodwork the cause was very apparent, for there were little colonies of ticks in hiding. In this case they had evidently been imported in a frame of perches which had been purchased at a sale some months before. It is often puzzling how they get into a yard, but when we say that we have shot sparrows and doves which have had young ticks on them, it will readily be understood that no poultry house—however well kept—can be sure of immunity. Another common source of infection is through buying fowls on the open market, for many of these have been sent in by country storekeepers who have brought them from kaffirs; these birds are usually kept for a time in a run at the store until there are enough to send away, and there are very few such runs which are not infected.

Yet another source of infection is, we are sorry to say, the railway, though in justice it is only fair to say that we do not see how this can be obviated; some of the trucks and vans are undoubtedly infected with ticks which have come out of crates or boxes of fowls at some time or another, and have secreted themselves in the



S. C. White Leghorn Cock.

crevices of the vans; they have probably been starved for months, owing to the trucks being used for other purposes, but as soon as they have the opportunity they take advantage of it, and thus carry the infection further.

When buying fowls on the market it is wise to make them roost at night in a packing case or some similar article of little value for ten days or so, after which they may safely be allowed to use the fowl house, and the packing case should be burnt.

There are several ingenious inventions for guarding poultry from the attacks of these pests, the two most noteworthy being as follows:—

1. The suspension of the perches by strong thin wires from the roof of the house, with side wires to prevent the ends of the perches from coming into contact with the sides of the house; the wires to be covered with moist tar or some other sticky substance which will effectually prevent the ticks from walking along it.

2. Roost hangers, which are metal supports fitted with a cup in the center; this cup must be kept full of paraffin or some other preparation which is deadly to the tick; one end of the support is fitted into the side of the fowl house, the other passing through a hole in the perch made for the purpose. The cup is about half way between the side of the house and the perch, and to get

to the bird the tick has to get over its contents. Unfortunately neither of these methods make provision for preventing the ticks from dropping from the roof of the house on to the bird, and this they will do if no other means of access is available.

When poultry houses become infected with ticks there is, in our opinion, only one safe method left open, and that is to get rid of them. Should the house not be of any great value, the wisest course is to burn it and build a fresh one in another part of the yard; should it be too valuable to burn, it must be thoroughly tarred both inside and out, care being taken that the tar gets into every crevice and joint. Paraffin will serve the same purpose as tar, but being more expensive, is not so likely to be used; carbolineum is also useful, and has the advantage that it soaks into the wood and acts as a preservative, but the cost of 3s. 6d. per gallon is rather high; where houses are built of match or floor boarding it is almost impossible to get the tar into all the crevices, and we would advise in such cases that the house be turned into a sectional one, *i. e.*, one which can be taken to pieces in sections; a tank must then be obtained into which sufficient tar must be placed to cover the bottom to a depth of about six inches, then each section should be dipped, care being taken to see that it is completely submerged. This will effectually destroy all of the ticks as well as their eggs. This method, of course, entails a certain amount of expense, but where numbers of poultry are kept it pays. Where houses are built of iron the difficulty is not so great, as the iron can be taken off and passed slowly through the fire, and the woodwork can be easily treated.

A blast lamp, such as is used for removing old paint, is very effective, but can only be used when the house is made of iron or plain ungrooved wood, as the flame cannot penetrate with sufficient force into the grooving of match boarding and flooring.

Dips are of little use for destroying adult ticks; we experimented with some of these in 10, 20 and 30 per cent solutions, and finally dipped them in crude dip, but they crawled out, and in twenty-four hours were as lively as possible. It is quite possible, in fact highly probable, that fowl ticks are capable of carrying infection of disease, and though we have not had any opportunity of testing this, we have strong reasons for believing that it is so.

Because a poultry keeper does not allow his birds to roost in fowl houses, but prefers to let them roost in trees, he must not imagine that his birds are immune from the attacks of this pest, for they thrive under loose bark of trees or under the rough ends of broken boughs and are, as a rule, more difficult to get rid of than when confined to poultry houses.

On visiting a certain farm recently one fowl run was pointed out to us, the farmer stating that he could not keep birds in it; he thought that the ground was fouled, but on inspecting the house we soon discovered the trouble, for it was infested with ticks.

In another instance, a gentleman had recently moved into a fresh house, and a friend had given him a few fowls to start with; he had not had them twenty-four hours before the majority were sick and two were dead. The owner was inclined to think that his friend had supplied him with birds that were sick, but on visiting the yard at his request we discovered that his birds were suffering from the effects of ticks which were swarming in the fowl house and on the surrounding trees: the house had not been occupied for eighteen months, yet the ticks had survived for that period without, it is reasonable to suppose, any food, which illustrates their tenacity of life.

In appearance the fowl tick is of a brownish color, and varies in size according to its age, from that of a pin head to the size of one's little finger nail. When quite young, before having had their first feed, they are of a whitish color with long legs like a spider, but the body is very small; as they get older the body increases in size, but the legs seem to get shorter and more powerful.

If their presence is suspected in a fowl house, it is a good plan to insert the blade of a pocket knife into any cracks or crevices, and if, when withdrawn, the blade bears blood marks it generally means that ticks are present, and steps should immediately be taken to get rid of them.

*Mr. Howard, the acting government entomologist, whose timely article on "Two Little Known Ticks," appears in this issue, informs me that he considers that whitewash properly applied, *viz.*, hot and thick, is a good preventive, provided care is taken not to introduce ticks from outside. Further, Mr. Howard states that the ticks on doves and parrots might have been of another species, as there are several common South African ticks which attack birds either in the immature or adult stage.—R. B.

Fanciers' Information Bureau.

Conducted by A. C. SMITH, Assistant Editor.

In this department, Mr. Smith will answer questions relating to the description, breeding and exhibition of throughbred fowls. Readers whose questions are urgent will receive replies promptly by mail if they enclose a two cent stamp.

Feathered Shanks. (J. M. H.)—"I would like to know through your paper, if any of the readers have had any trouble breeding R. I. Reds with clean legs, that is,—not feathered. I mated up five good pullets hatched early in June, 1906 to a fine cockerel of about the same age. I hatched about a dozen chicks, and all but three have feathers on their legs, some more than others. Now I don't think these pullets are of the same strain as the cockerel, as I got the eggs that hatched the pullets from Rochester, N. Y., and from very fine looking stock. The cockerel is from the Thomas or Thompson strain, in Massachusetts somewhere. Head is clean cut and shows up well. Also please state the origin of R. I. Reds. I have the single comb variety, and like them very much, and was somewhat disappointed when they turned out with feathered legs. I would also like to state that I have no other chickens with feathered legs on my place, and no near neighbors."

The best thing to do in a case like this is to look over the females in your breeding yard closely, and if you do not discover feathers in the shank or between the toes of some of the females, look a second time. If none are discovered on a re-examination, look the male over closely. The chances are about one in ten that you won't discover where these feathers come from. It is hardly possible to make a simple and definite statement as to the origin of R. I. Reds. They were originated by the farmers in and about Little Compton, R. I., and have been bred by them for fifty years and more. They are said to have a foundation of Cochin Chinas and Malays. It is natural to suppose that the feathers which you have owe their presence to the Cochin China blood of years ago, but they may be due to other influences. These farmers of Little Compton were interested in the production of eggs, and not in fancy fowls. Never for a moment did such a thing as a show bird enter their heads. They crossed, recrossed, and introduced new blood with the sole object of getting a great laying fowl of fair size. The different breeders have probably used a great many breeds at different times. Very likely some used the Plymouth Rock and the Light Brahma, but no matter what they used for crosses, they always used the red males that resulted from the crosses, but paid less attention to the color of the females. In this way they built up a red colored bird. Leghorn blood was undoubtedly used to help the laying quality, and to the influence of R. C. Brown Leghorn blood is attributed the Rose Comb Rhode Island Red.

Blue Andalusian-Barred Plymouth Rock Cross. (A. J. W.)—"I have a trio of Blue Andalusians and a small flock of Barred Plymouth Rock hens and one yearling cock. What would be the outcome if I mated Barred Plymouth Rock hens with the Blue Andalusian cock? What would be the result if I mated Blue Andalusian hens with Barred Plymouth Rock cock? Would it be advisable to mate now, and try breeding at the present time?"

I have never seen that cross, and I can not conjecture what advantages would accrue from it. Crosses are not as a rule in favor with the best poultrymen. The beauty of both varieties would surely be injured, and I do not think any material advantage would result.

Disqualifications of Leghorns. (F. G.)—"Does red in earlobes of S. C. B. Leghorns disqualify? If not, what is the cut? Please give all disqualifications of S. C. B. Leghorns. Should lobes be pure white, or a little creamy? Does creamy

white disqualify? Does white in ear lobe of White Rocks disqualify?"

Red in the ear lobe of a Brown Leghorn or any Leghorn does not disqualify unless the red covers more than one-half the surface of the lobe of the cockerels and pullets. White in any part of the plumage except undercolor of hackle and saddle of either sex any age. Cock birds that have less than one inch of white at base of sickles, and less than one-half inch at base of flights, can not be disqualified, but are cut one and one-half points for these defects. Shanks that are other than yellow also disqualifies. The lobes should be pure white, but if creamy it is not a serious defect, and would hardly be cut over one-half of one point for any moderate creamy tinge. Any enameled or positive white in the lobe of a White Plymouth Rock does disqualify.

So Few Hens. (R. L.)—"I have a Barred Rock rooster that has put some of my hens' backs in such a condition that I am compelled to keep him separated from them. As he is the only one I have now, I do not like to lose him. The trouble must be with his claws, as the spurs are short and stumpy. He is only a year old. What must I do?"

The best thing to do is to give the bird more laying hens for mates. He is apparently a very vigorous bird. Let the original hens have two or three days rest. If the condition of their back does not improve, allow the male to be with them only twice a week.

Blind Staggers. R. M. G.—"I have a Leghorn which was taken sick. He was dizzy, and could not eat, and when he went a little ways he would fall over and his head would shake. I fed him with a spoon, but he finally died. What was the cause, and disease he had?"

Your bird was suffering from what was known a few years ago as blind staggers. What that really is in this case is the question. I should attribute it to a disease of the heart, and failure of that organ to perform its functions. I have seen birds act that way after procuring some foul matter, which I presume resulted in ptomaine poisoning. Fowls that have not been fed salt for a long period sometimes act the same way if they suddenly get access to the salt box. Then again, such symptoms are observed when the fowl has worms in such numbers as to produce stoppage of the bowels and retard digestion.

Feeding Pheasants. (R. C. P.)—"Are pheasants much more difficult to raise than chickens? Do they require special feed, or can they be fed on chick feed? What would be the best kind to experiment with—Golden Mongolian, or Ring Neck?"

Pheasants are considered hard to raise. They are certainly harder to rear than chickens. They are being successfully raised now on chick food. Formerly it was considered necessary to feed them on maggots; but this has been proved to be a fallacy. Golden are most common, and are considered one of the most hardy varieties.

How Many Females? (J. D. P.)—"Would you advise breeding from a Barred Plymouth Rock cockerel nine to ten months old, in good condition, and well developed? If so, to how many hens or pullets, or both? For instance, a cockerel hatched out in May or June, in the following February or March?"

If the cockerel is mature—and he should be pretty mature at that age—there is no reason why he should not be mated to either hens or pullets. If pullets, they should be mature. The number depends

upon the male. Some males will care for more females than others. Six would be a safe number, though eight, ten, or even twelve are not too many for some males.

To Shorten Spurs. (H. C.)—"Please state in next issue of FARM-POULTRY the best way to take off the spurs that have grown long on the legs of a Game Bantam."

See what was printed in May 1st, 1907 number, on page 245, under inquiry of (C. L. C.) The file in question should be a small one instead of a sharp one, as it reads there.

Wanted—A Breed Standard. (W. J. M.)—"Will you please tell me through FARM-POULTRY, how I might get a minute description of the White Wyandotte? You may say to purchase the American Standard of Perfection, but this will cost me \$1.50. What I want is a book on White Wyandottes exclusively, not quite as expensive as the Standard; or a description in FARM-POULTRY. I have an idea. It is as follows:—Breeder of White Wyandottes, paste this in your hat. Here give cut of male and female, with minute description as to eyes, wattles, feet, beak, weight, color, and everything which makes up a perfect White Wyandotte. This I think will aid many novices like myself."

What would just suit W. J. M. would be a breed standard, that is, just the portion of the Standard that relates to Wyandottes. There is a growing demand for breed standards, and the writer is inclined to believe that the Standard would be more popular if it was issued in that form, and revised by specialty clubs of national prominence. As you can not obtain a breed standard, it would seem advisable to procure the book as issued at one dollar and a half. You can hardly do without it; but whether you should procure it or not, you are perhaps the best judge. Two other books I would certainly recommend, whether you procure the Standard or not,—one is "The Wyandotte," published by the Reliable Poultry Journal Publishing Company, and the other is the catalogue of the National White Wyandotte Club. This can presumably be obtained from Mr. Ross C. Hallock, St. Louis, Mo., the secretary of the National White Wyandotte Club. We can not in these columns at this time go into a minute description of this variety, but may perhaps denote a few of the general characteristics of the variety. The Wyandotte is a rather low set bird. Its body should be one of curves, no matter at what angle it is viewed from. It should be a chunky bird, but not a square or oblong chunk, as for instance the Dorking. Its breast should be deep and broad, but not flat. That is, a line from side to side or from front of wing bow to front of wing bow, should be a curve, which would make the breast of course most prominent in the middle. It should also curve from the throat to the thigh. The legs should have the stocky, stout appearance, and toes the same. The back of the male should be short, and have a concave rise to the tail. The back of the female should have the same general shape, with a slight but broad cushion. I like the way one veteran breeder described the shape of the Wyandotte. He said, "I want a bird of such curves that if you had a small barrel hoop and should fit it over the bird's body it would meet at all points; if you stood the bird in the centre of the hoop when the hoop was laying on the ground, and raised it so that it came in contact with the bird's breast, the breast would touch at all points. Again, if you see the hoop on the bird's back lengthwise, the hoop would fit snugly between the neck and

tail, resting on the back." You will on inspection of the model cuts on pages 54 and 55 of the Standard of Perfection, notice that this description comes very near to the shape of these cuts.

To Distinguish Between Male and Female Guineas. (A. M. W.)—"Can you tell me how to tell the difference between the male and female Guineas? I have two young ones, and the only difference I see between them is that one makes a little more noise than the other, and is a little more crabbed. It is always flying at the hens and chickens."

This is one of the most difficult things to do. It will probably require close observation to definitely and positively make up your mind. The wattles and comb of the male are supposed to be somewhat larger, but then you can not be sure by this sign by any means. The wattles of the cocks are of a brighter red than those of the hens. Some go so far as to describe those of the hen as being of a blue hue. They are of a deeper red. The most unfailing sign and the one that is infallible is the peculiar note of the hen that the cock can not imitate. It is what is called the "come back" call of the hen. To the writer, this call sounds more like "co-wack, co-wack," with the accent strongly on the last syllable.

Breeding Brother and Sisters. (W. R. F.)—"Would it be all right to mate a cockerel with his sister pullets, providing they are both vigorous, healthy, and up to standard weight—or would it be better to get an older bird of another strain, and line breed from that out, providing I can find as good or better bird than the cockerel? The cockerel is a White Plymouth Rock, and is a beauty."

If there are some particular points that you wish to perpetuate or to fix firmly in your flock, and this cockerel and his sisters both have these points, by all means, mate them together if, as you write, they are of standard size, vigorous, and healthy. If this is not the case, it would be better to mate these females with a bird not as nearly mated.

Breeding From Small Males. (Mrs. H. A. T.)—"Last year I bought a \$5 sitting of eggs at half price in June, from a supposed reliable and well known White Rock breeder. I got only two chicks from the hatch, and the breeder allowed me \$1.50 on a trio of young chickens which I paid him \$15 for. These with the express paid on same cost me about \$25, all told. The stock was weak from some cause, and from the five chickens I have only a cockerel and pullet left. The pullet is a fair layer, and fairly good shape; is white. The cockerel is excellent shape, has good bay eyes, and an extra good comb, but weighs only 6¼ lbs. Up to two months ago he was a milk white, but has since turned quite creamy on hackle, back, saddle feathers, and wing bows. It is not caused from his food, as I feed only oats and wheat, with table scraps. I expect to start a poultry business in a modest way this fall, on a few acres of land close to Spokane, Washington, and I don't want to waste another year on stock, as I have this one. My means are limited, and I want to invest to the best advantage possible. I neglected to say that the cockerel is pure white in the under feathers, and shows no creaminess in the flight feathers or sickles. At the Spokane fair last fall I asked judge Hewes why the creaminess was allowed on the first cockerel, and he said it was 'sap,' but when does the 'sap' disappear? My cockerel will be a year old July 2, 1907. I have a Standard of Perfection, and take six poultry papers, but yet I am very much in the

(Continued on page 305.)

To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you—please them—and help us.

Editorial Page of Farm - Poultry

Unfruitful Argument.

THE FEATHER laments because it thinks there has been "considerable unnecessary talk relative to the publication and copyright of the American Poultry Association."

Inasmuch as freedom of speech and the press generally prevail in this country, and the *Feather's* dictum as to the necessity of discussing the subject is merely the opinion of—in this case—its associate editor, it is likely that those who have been discussing the matter will continue to be their own judges of the necessity or propriety of continuing to discuss it.

We have frequently had occasion to observe that the people who object to discussion of a topic as unnecessary, or to remarks upon it as unduly long, do so only in case the trend of discussion is not favorable to their views. In the present case the discussion of the real facts in regard to A. P. A. and other standards is rapidly familiarizing poultrymen with the principle that the standards for each breed should be made by the interested breeders, and from all sides there comes an ever swelling demand for breed standards. This demand is one upon which the two columns of argument into which *The Feather* seems to have been forced by the "unnecessary talk" will not be likely to have the desired effect.

Readers of that paper who want standards for their own breeds only will not be much impressed by the speculations it contains about things said to be beyond imagination, but will be quite sure to note that in proving to his own satisfaction that the R. I. Red Club, the White Rock Club, the Partridge Wyandotte Club, and any others may publish their own ideas of correct description and outline, without "disloyalty" to the A. P. A., he abandons the case for the "old association," for if clubs may do what the R. I. Red Club has done and is doing, the American Poultry Association must either shift its control of the Standard to another basis, or lose it altogether.

It is quite superfluous for anyone to undertake to prove by argument that certain conditions do not exist, when the existence of those conditions may be observed as a matter of fact. It is nonsense to infer that certain clubs or persons would not do anything prejudicial to an association, and from this to argue that certain things for which they are in a measure responsible cannot therefore be detrimental to the interests of the association, when they are openly and notoriously doing things which damage the association, or preparing to do such things.

But the attitude of those who speak for and from the A. P. A. in regard to these matters is quite understandable to anyone at all familiar with its history and policy. It is the same old story. If anyone persists in disregard or defiance of its pretensions of authority, it folds its hands and solemnly declares that none of its prerogatives are affected, or magnanimously announces that the offender is forgiven. In this particular matter, however, the infringement on its prerogatives touches it at a vital spot, for if other clubs follow the lead of those now publishing, or proposing to publish, their own ideal descriptions and illustrations, it will not be necessary for poultrymen to purchase A. P. A. standards, the revenues of the association dwindle, and—exit the A. P. A.

When we say this we are not "knocking" the association. We are simply calling attention of poultrymen in and out of the association to the logical results of existing conditions. It is absurd for members of the A. P. A. to claim in one breath the right to control the standards, and in the next to declare that the issue of club standards is entirely in harmony with A. P. A. interests.



Combined Results of Different Methods.

AMONG matters suggested by the contribution of Mr. Dudley, which appears elsewhere in this issue, is one which seems to us to deserve more special attention than is given it in the comments on Mr. Dudley's article.

As generally applied, the methods which give the best net profit to the poultry keeper are not the methods which tend to produce the largest and finest individual specimens of fowls, or the greatest egg yields. To one who measures results according to standards of individual excellence and performance, methods which do not make a satisfactory showing by these standards are likely to seem very poor methods. But as we have pointed out again and again in these columns, such standards are misleading—not necessarily so, but most poultrymen allow themselves to be misled by them.

A fowl of the size and weight most approved by the fanciers of the variety to which it belongs may not be of the size and weight it is most profitable to produce. If it is not, it will be neglected by those producing for profit only, or bred or grown to a different type. There is a very marked difference between breeding to a different type from the popular one, and growing stock which, though produced from birds approximating the common type, do not equal it in development.

In the first case the change of type is made by deliberate and persistent selection, and is maintained from generation to generation. In the second case there is no intentional change of type, but the stock falls below the average development possible under favorable conditions. It may be good as compared with ordinary stock, yet leave much to be desired when compared with the choicest individual specimens. It is no doubt possible, with skill and care, to combine fine development and economy in production to a greater extent than we ordinarily find, but it is apparent that a very large number who try to do this fail.

When we consider individual cases separately it seems most unfortunate that this should be so, but in the wider results of such events we can see how a loss or failure of one kind tends to work for better results in another direction.

If it were not for the people who breed for fine individual development without regard to cost the general average of size and quality would be so reduced that the methods of those who breed for profit first would be inadequate. In other words, the extra work the breeder for quality puts into his fowls offsets the lack of attention which the market poultryman gives to his. We cannot always trace the connection of facts like these in particular cases, but we see them very plainly when the fanciers'

neglect to keep fowls to a high standard of vigor and productiveness is soon followed by marked deterioration in the "practical" stocks of the same breed. The reason for this is that the practical breeder can no longer get fowls so much better than the average of his stock that the deteriorating results of his methods are each year offset as much as is necessary by the superiority of the new blood introduced.



Who Makes Usage?

POULTRY CULTURE is exercised over what it describes as incorrect use of terms among poultrymen. It finds the words "breed" and "variety" commonly used as synonyms, and would like to have writers more precise in handling these words.

That is a point well taken. We cannot, however, agree with our contemporary when it says, "Fowls are correctly described as pure bred, but not as 'thoroughbred.'" In live stock circles, and poultry is a branch of live stock, the word 'thoroughbred' is applied correctly only to the running horse. No other horse and no other kind of live stock, is 'thoroughbred.' There is a reason for this, of course, in the nature of things. It is a matter of usage, and what correct usage dictates 'goes' in such matters."

Now as a matter of fact, leaving out of the question the matter of usage, and considering the strict meaning of the terms, "thoroughbred" may be correctly applied to a vastly greater number of fowls than "pure bred." Fowls are practically thoroughbred, when actually they are not pure bred. Thoroughbred fowls are quite common; absolutely pure bred fowls are extremely rare.

In regard to usage, we do not know why poultrymen or any other class of live stock men should defer to a monopoly of the term thoroughbred for the running horse. We not only do not know why they should do this, but we do not know that they do not do it. They use commonly and have used ever since we can remember, the term thoroughbred to apply to fowls, and we do not think any method of preventing their doing so could be found. It is common usage, that always prevails, and becomes correct usage, and however it may go against the grain in some quarters, "thoroughbred" may as well be accepted as in established good usage.



Not "Working for Nothing."

A GENTLEMAN in Missouri having received a sample copy of this paper, sending his subscription, also asks a question.

That is all right.

But asking the question, he apologizes for it, saying: "I hate to begin our acquaintance by asking you to work for nothing."

That shows a misunderstanding of the situation—the editor's personal situation.

We are not working for nothing. While our rate of compensation is far below that of—life insurance presidents, as long as we can manage to hold our job we can feel that we are fairly compensated for our time. Who pays us?

Apparently and directly, the publishers; but in the last analysis, and actually, the subscribers.

To the subscriber who asks questions to which we can give a helpful answer—an answer, perhaps, worth many dollars to him, it may appear, at first thought, that at the low price at which he gets the paper, everything extra is a gift.

That is not the way to look at it. That is not how we regard it. The correspondence departments of our paper are among the most valuable features in it—profitable to us as well as to subscribers. To attend to them is a part of our work—a part of what we are paid for doing. When we answer a question for a reader, it is not for that reader alone, but for many other readers.

Earlier in our editorial experience we used to think it was a waste of valuable space to print readers' explanations, statements, and questions fully. Perhaps it was—as far as the person asking the question was concerned. Perhaps the reply was clear to that person. It may even have been suggestive or informing to others. But we found that people wanted the question as well as the answer. We found, too, that sometimes people got more out of the question than they did out of the answer, and sometimes when a statement left a matter still obscure, another reader, out of a similar experience, could supply an essential point or fact omitted by the first, and thus, gradually, we arrived at a correct understanding of the case.

A subscriber's—or reader's—privilege begins with his interest in the paper. We are as ready, and feel the same obligation to answer questions for the man who frankly says he found or borrowed a copy of the paper, as for the subscriber who has been with us from the beginning. In fact, we have not the time, even if we had the disposition, to figure out how much attention a correspondent ought to have, if his claims were reduced to a credit and debit basis. The only time we ever have a correspondent's subscription looked up is when one asks questions we have reason to suppose he need not have asked had he read the paper with even ordinary interest and attention during the period covered by his subscription.

This happens when someone makes a statement or asks a question which indicates that he has been for one or several years a reader of the paper, and in the same letter asks other questions on matters fully discussed during that period. We have always been slow to help those who would not help themselves, and as we have never yet been able to look up all the matters referred to us by readers, we are especially averse to repeating information for those who ought not to need to ask it.

Going back to the matter of payment. As we have said, in the last analysis, the subscribers pay for pretty nearly everything. Neither subscribers, advertisers, or publishers seem able to fully realize that this is the case. A single advertiser may pay a paper each year for advertising an amount equal to the aggregate of several thousand subscriptions. He pays it because he expects to sell its readers goods enough to make it worth his while to do business with them. Some readers buy little from advertisers. Probably a very few buy absolutely nothing. Some buy a great deal. The subscribers collectively pay the advertising bills of the successful advertisers, and in so doing they actually pay for their paper much more than the subscription price.



Exceptional Results, and "Judicious Neglect."

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—At the May meeting of the Suburban Poultry Club, which the writer attended with considerable pleasure, and, we hope, some profit, some of the points or methods of poultry husbandry touched upon and discussed there at that time seem to us to have been left in such a condition as to give one the impression that cleanliness in the care of poultry and growing chicks is no longer thought necessary or desirable; that it is not necessary to clean houses often if the occupants of said houses are in good condition and are fed properly. Furthermore, that it is possible, and even commendable, in the point of economy of labor, to overcrowd the growing birds and to greatly overstock the house, and even then not clean them out for months. This seems to us to be carrying a bad practice altogether too far, and it seems as though the birds must suffer sometime during their lives by such treatment, and their owners suffer loss through them.

We notice particularly in this connection the poultry farm of Mr. H. D. Smith, of Rockland, Mass., whose poultry methods have been much written up in some of the poultry journals, and who is himself held up as a highly successful poultryman. We understand that he places his winter chicks, as soon as they are large enough, and "have their pants on," (to use his own expression), out in 6 x 8 colony houses, fifty birds in a house, and that these chicks are kept in these houses until marketed as soft roasters the following spring and summer, and that these houses are not cleaned out from the time the chicks are placed in them until they are removed. Without doubting in the least that Mr. Smith does this, we feel considerable curiosity as to how many years he has been following this plan of non-cleaning, and, furthermore, how many years he expects to be able to keep it up with satisfactory results. On most of these south shore plants such methods as Mr. Smith's would not be as far reaching in its effects as it would be with him, as those who keep no breeding stock, and buy their eggs of outside parties, would not, of course, have any hereditary deterioration to combat arising from this source. But we are told that Mr. Smith keeps his own breeders, and that he saves from his birds each year pullets in sufficient numbers to maintain his breeding stock. We presume, (whether correctly or not), that these intended breeders are reared with the other chicks, and cared for in the same way until they are old enough to possess such distinguishing features as to enable one to pick them out as desirable birds for the breeding pens. Now the question that sticks in our crop is whether pullets housed in this way, fed in this way, and, as we suppose some would say, "judiciously neglected" in this way, can and do possess sufficient stamina and inherent strength to perpetuate themselves in the next generation by giving good strong husky youngsters that can be raised at a profit to their owner. It seems as though there must be a limit to these unnatural conditions somewhere, and that sooner or later we are going to pay dearly for our "judicious neglect" in past days.

We are told that these birds are fed cracked corn and scraps in hoppers kept "a la free lunch" at all times, and that accordingly all the temptation they have to bestir themselves is in acquiring a certain amount of green food, and in traveling to appease their guilty consciences. Personally we like to have our intended breeders have more inducement to travel, a considerable more variety in things to eat, and to have them bunk in quarters that are cleaned out at least once in a while. By this it will be seen that we are old fashioned along these lines, and not up to date and progressive. We don't think much of cracked corn alone, nor of wheat or oats, or barley or buckwheat alone, but in combination or in alternation we think they are all right. We don't think much of overcrowding our intended market chicks, and when we treat our breeders that way, as we have done on several occasions, we have always been able to see where we lost by so doing. In

fact, to take Mr. Smith's methods of care and treatment collectively, it seems to us that they are the methods by which most poultry keepers, sooner or later, invite failure instead of acquiring success. This shows undoubtedly the fact that Mr. S. is a genius in that he can succeed by following methods by which others fail; but there are a great many other poultrymen who won't be able to see wherein they are not just as smart as Mr. S. is, and why therefore they cannot proceed along the lines of "judicious neglect" just as successfully as he does. For if success can be achieved by such methods, lack of variety in ration, overcrowding, and without cleanliness, it would seem as though it would take the ingenuity of a Philadelphia lawyer to hit upon a way that won't work out all right; and yet in practice this is not so, as the wrecks of poultry keeping we hear of and know of will testify. It seems as though with the ordinary every day poultry keeper that when he begins to neglect or put off these little things, when he begins to be careless in feeding, to economize on space, and to neglect the regular cleanings, that then is coming the beginning of the end for him as a successful poultryman. Perhaps this need not necessarily be so, and that these results need not necessarily follow, but it seems to me that most of us will have a whole lot to learn about fowls and their ways before we can hope to succeed by following the methods outlined by Mr. Smith.

It has been demonstrated many times with domestic animals, as cattle, sheep, and even the "dirty hog," that individual and careful attention to feeding, housing, and cleanliness undoubtedly pays, and further than that, that it is necessary to give this attention if one is to become successful with them, and if his animals are to attain their highest physical excellence. It has been proved over and over that even the much despised hog will do better in clean roomy quarters, and on a varied ration, than in filth, and fed on swill. What is true of hogs is certainly true of sheep and cattle, and should be so with fowls, and we won't back down yet in our belief that persons situated as is Mr. Smith, while undoubtedly making a profit as they are now doing, would make a still

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Magnolia, Mass., Feb. 25, 1907.

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greater profit by a little more attention to things which the old fashioned "hen man" has in the past considered necessary details.

ALVIN L. DUDLEY.

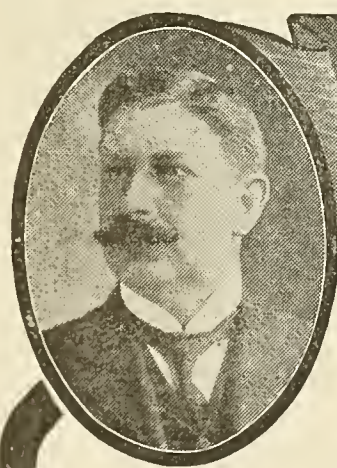
So. Lincoln, Mass.

Mr. Dudley's contribution brings up a number of interesting questions, which though not new, are pertinent and timely. Some of the points he makes were in part anticipated in the lesson in which Mr. Smith's methods were discussed, but it will do no harm to discuss them here without regard to that partial treatment of them.

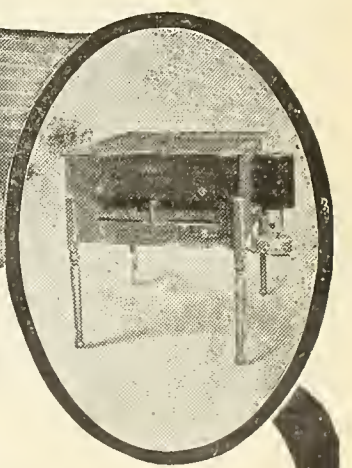
On one general point I think Mr. Dudley has the wrong point of view. To him the "judicious neglect" methods are *new*, and the more careful and painstaking, hygienic, orderly, etc., methods which have so generally been advocated by writers on poultry topics and practiced by

"model" poultrymen, are the natural, time tested and proved methods. Now the facts are just the other way. I do not mean by that that the habits of the wild progenitors of the domestic fowl—if we knew what those were—constituted the only genuine natural methods. In discussing natural and other methods and conditions in poultry culture, I think we may reasonably make a different use of the terms *natural* and *unnatural*. It seems to me entirely legitimate to consider the methods which most closely approximate natural conditions—that is, conditions in which the fowls are left as much as possible to themselves—as natural methods; and conditions in which the fowls are in any way restrained from following their natural inclinations as unnatural, or artificial.

The natural conditions, then, are the conditions under which fowls have been



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kept for centuries. The artificial and unnatural conditions are the conditions devised by men (principally since the beginning of what we may call the modern interest in poultry and poultry culture) with the idea of improving on the results obtained under the natural conditions. These modern, often highly artificial conditions have been popular among people trying to get specially good results with poultry for a period which cannot be definitely limited, but which extends back for about twenty years as a popular system, and for a much longer period in the practice of individuals. This system seems to have reached the apex of its popularity about ten years ago, and to have been on the decline ever since. It will undoubtedly continue to be tried for a long time by people who will fail with it, and will be used as long as poultry is kept by people who must use it if they keep fowls. But as a system for the man who wants to make his living from poultry, the system which calls for the labor involved in keeping poultry houses always clean, and in feeding for the best individual development, and the expense of maintaining a plant of the capacity to give the fowls the room required for the best individual development of poultry keeping has amply demonstrated its unfitness.

At the same time, the systems that combined some of the old fashioned advantages with old time carelessness have been demonstrating their value. Descriptions of the old, somewhat careless ways of keeping poultry do not read as nicely as those which comprise a series of statements telling how everything can be done in the best possible and nicest way; but when you come to the final test of results the advantage is more and more with the methods that lack elaborateness and finish, and include some features that suggest slackness or slipshod management. But these things on paper do not look at all like the things as they are in reality. The model plant, a description of which reads so nicely—may not be very attractive when you come to see it. Indeed, thousands of people have been shocked and disgusted upon finding out for themselves how far short of the picture the words made in their minds were the conditions on some celebrated poultry plant. The other kind of plants have not been visited so much—people were not wanting to see how things were done in ways that were not model and up to date, but on these plants generally there is an appearance of general thrift that is lacking on most model plants run on their earnings, while the points of slackness in management are far less striking than most would suppose, and may not be at all conspicuous.

That matter of the looks of the plant or its interest to people generally is not an essential point. The final test of a meth-

od is that it shall pay and continue to pay, and that not merely with the exceptional man but with the average man. By that test the colony method—an almost primitive method of egg farming has demonstrated its superiority to model egg farms of a great variety of types, and by that test—though not yet in the same degree, the methods of the soft roaster growers are justifying themselves.

Mr. Smith's farm is conspicuously successful, but there are others of which as much can be said, while the gradual development of the industry all through that section is in striking contrast to the almost universal abandonment or change of management in "model" poultry plants in existence when Mr. Smith began.

The methods in use in the soft roaster district are not new. They have been in use there all the while that the more progressive (?) ideas were being tried out, and they have stood the test. There have been many failures in that time there as elsewhere, but I think it would be found that these failures were made many times oftener by persons who tried to have everything nice and hygienic than by those who followed the custom of the district. I remember a few years ago visiting a newly established plant in this section. I accompanied an old poultryman who knew the section thoroughly. The proprietor of this plant had much to say about the greater attention to cleanliness he was giving, and the superiority of the product he was going to put out. My companion smiled significantly and suggested that if he continued in the business it would be by following the methods of the others.

It may be admitted that greater cleanliness, less crowding, greater variety in food, tend to produce better individual specimens of poultry, and, perhaps, a more valuable total product, but—as has been stated a number of times—it may not be as profitable to produce the most and best poultry as to produce a little less both in quantity and quality. It all depends on the cost of production.

The point in regard to the breeding stock at Mr. Smith's is, in part, well taken. I referred to that in the lesson. I think it will be found advisable to give the breeding stock more room after maturity. As to the conditions while the chicks are growing, they are not as Mr. Dudley evidently supposes. The chicks kept for breeding stock here will get very much more coop room than the growing pullets on most of the farms in the R. I. colony section. In fact, they get as much coop room as most growing pullets, and much better range; and, as a matter of fact, the breeding stock used is better developed than that of nine out of ten growers who may try to take more pains with their stock.

Inconsistencies Explained.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—You will remember my sending you a letter some time ago, for advice regarding my hens, which you answered in your Question Box department in March 15th issue, under the heading "Why Don't They Lay?" Now, sir, that letter contradicts itself so often that you must either put me down for a hopeless prevaricator of the truth or someone rather light in the upper story. The fact is I work in a flour mill; am obliged to work every second week at night time. This gives me a chance to tend my hens personally every second week. I use the trap nests every week I am home in the daytime, taking away the traps when I am working days. When I am working days I fix all up in morning and lock up the doors, and the hens never see anybody till I come home at night. They are fed the dry mash in long boxes same as at the Maine experiment station. When I am away all daytime I give them a double feed of grain in litter in the morning.

I see in your answer you recommend feeding corn meal, but this is so dear that

we can't touch it here. Might say I have found out long ago what was the trouble. The real trouble was the dry mash was too sticky, the flour and oat flour making it so, but it never occurred to me till about a week after I wrote you. The fact is they could not swallow it. So I changed this mixture and put just straight bran in the boxes, and fed them quite heavy on oats in the litter. From that time they have averaged pretty near double as many eggs. In fact I'm getting about 30 eggs a day most days.

Might say in conclusion that I am much obliged to you for your courtesy in answering my letter so fully and so promptly. Will always say a good word for FARM-POULTRY when I get a chance.

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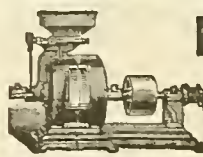


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The Editor's Question Box.

In this department the editor will answer miscellaneous questions on poultry topics, and all special requests for his personal views which can be answered briefly. Inquiries will be answered as promptly as possible and as nearly as may be in the order in which they are received.

Preserving Eggs. (S. N. A.)—"Kindly give me information as to the best way of preserving eggs for private use, say for a period of two or three months. Would a cold cellar do if the eggs were packed in bran and kept at a low temperature—or would you prefer an ice house for storing them? How long a period can eggs be kept wholesome on ice? If eggs are preserved in water glass must the vessel be sealed tight or air proof? Would a wooden barrel do for the purpose?"

We published in the June 1, 1906 issue a number of methods of preserving eggs. A copy of that paper may be obtained at this office for five cents. Eggs should keep quite well for two to three months in a cool dry cellar. They would deteriorate somewhat in that time, but would probably be stale—not decomposed. I do not know how long eggs can be kept on ice. Eggs in cold storage are kept in a cold dry air. Dampness in the storage rooms will affect the pasteboard fillers in the cases, and impart a most disagreeable odor and taste of wet brown cardboard to the eggs. So far as I have seen reports of tests with water glass, the eggs have been put in stone jars, and the jars covered. I see no reason why eggs should not be preserved in a wooden barrel or cask—the same as meat or pickles of various kinds.

Was It Good Laying? (S. N. A.)—"Would like to ask your opinion about my egg record. I have a laying stock of about four hundred hens. There are two hundred S. C. White Leghorns, and the rest a mixture of varieties and crosses of several breeds. The following number of eggs was collected during the months named: Dec., 1,405 eggs, or 117 dozen; Jan., 2,124 eggs, or 181½ dozen; Feb., 3,360 eggs, or 280 dozen; March, 5,145 eggs, or 428½ dozen. My stock has been closely confined, and had no green food or any vegetable during the whole winter. Do you think it is good results?"

Without figuring it exactly we may put the egg yield in percentages, the most satisfactory way to express it for purposes of comparison. A 100% egg yield for 400 hens in December, (31 days), would be 400 eggs a day. The average daily egg yield for that month was 45 eggs per day—10½%. For January we have 17%; February, 30%; March, 42%. These percentages do not indicate heavy laying at any time. The yields for December and January are about the common average for those months, but most poultrymen who have as good as that in those months will have a much higher percentage in February and March than is shown here.

Liver Trouble. (H. L. W.)—"I would like to know what ails some of my hens. I noticed that one or two were very loose in their droppings. Their combs would then grow purple, and about a week later one died. I have removed the other from that house to another that was vacant. The droppings had a peculiar smell, and were light in color. One hen seems to be weak in her legs. She sits around all day. Can it be that they are too fat? I thought that, and reduced their rations a quarter, and put plenty of litter down for them. Do you think it would be inherited, as I had set some eggs from one hen that was loose boweled before I noticed this?"

This seems to be a plain case of liver trouble. The exact form of the disease could only be discovered by post mortem examination. That, however, is not of any special importance, for the different

forms of liver trouble develop from the same conditions, and are corrected by the same treatment. When the symptoms described above appear it is too late for treatment. A bird may be saved occasionally, but the chance of a cure is not great enough to make it worth while to treat the bird. The thing to do is to look after the rest of the flock. The trouble develops usually as the result of heavy grain feeding with little green food or exercise. When a few hens in a flock show the symptoms of advanced stages of liver trouble, it is reasonable to conclude that others in the flock are in the earlier stages. Give the flock a grass run if possible. If not, give green food liberally, avoid the excessive use of corn, and try to secure a considerable amount of exercise for the fowls. This is best accomplished for fowls in confinement by feeding the grain in litter, and feeding rather sparingly at first. This reduction of diet should not be continued too long. If it is, the birds become weakened and reduced in flesh.

Feeding 100 Hens on Range. (C. Z.)—"How much a day should I feed 100 hens, 15 P. Rocks, 15 mixed, 70 Leghorns? I give now 20 lbs. of corn. The birds have the run of 30 acres. I feed in the morning 8 lbs. of corn meal mash; at noon 5 lbs. of corn; at night 7 lbs. The hens are not laying very well."

When hens are on range like this the amount of food they get on the range is an unknown quantity, and as they are sure of exercise enough, it is usually safe to feed them all they will eat. I would feed but twice a day. Give in the morning as much of either mash or grain as they will eat clean and go foraging after eating. In the evening give them all they will eat.

Too Concentrated Food. (E. B. M.)—"Will you please tell us the cause of, and the remedy for, the trouble with my hens? They are fed on dry mash composed of 4 qts. meal, 2 qts. ground oats, 6 qts. shorts, 4 qts. beef scraps, 2 qts. red dog, 1 qt. cotton seed meal, 2 qts. linseed meal, 2 tablespoonfuls salt, 2 tablespoonfuls powdered charcoal; all mixed together and fed in hoppers. At noon in the winter cut clover, and in summer cut lawn grass; but the yards, (one on the north side for summer, and one on the south side for winter), are sown to rye, so they have about all the green feed they require. For the past three months I have had trouble with a kind of white diarrhea which, if they continue to run, will eventually have the rectum out about the size of an egg. After a time this protrusion will look like proud flesh, and cause some blood to flow. I have not had any die from this cause, but I have killed some I got tired looking at. I forgot to say after the dry mash I feed a hard grain ration of 2 qts. cracked corn, 3 qts. oats, 2 qts. barley; all mixed together and fed all they will eat at night. I had always thought when feeding dry mash no such looseness would occur. I began feeding this dry mash last February. I had always fed a wet mash until February. Owing to hired help I had to change to dry mash. Since I began this letter I found one chick with the rectum protruding, incubator hatched and artificially brooded, and that one died today. The chickens are fed on a dry mash composed of 2 qts. meal, 4 qts. bran, 2 qts. scraps, 1 qt. red dog, 1 qt. linseed; all mixed together with salt and charcoal added. Also one tablespoonful of Pratts food. Now I should like to know if my

MRS. EDITH M. HANDY

Breeder of
WHITE WYANDOTTES EXCLUSIVELY,
Eggs for sale in season.
R. F. D. No. 1, Box 6, Winchester, N. H.



Makes harness proof against heat and moisture. Gives a glossy black finish. Prevents rot. Imparts pliability, strength and durability to leather. Saves bills and mishaps. Keeps a new harness looking new and makes an old harness look like new. Contains nothing rough to cut and chafe. For axle troubles use

BOSTON COACH AXLE OIL

Better and more economical than castor oil. Will not gum or corrode. Lasting, reliable, satisfactory. Highest Award World's Columbian Exposition. Sold everywhere—all sizes.

MADE BY
STANDARD OIL COMPANY
Incorporated

NETTLETON'S LT. BRAHMAS

Winners of the Blue at many exhibitions. Size and quality is what I have.

An extra nice lot of young birds for sale after Oct. 1. A few this season breeding cockerels at \$5 and \$10 each, grand birds.

C. P. NETTLETON, Box 159, Shelton, Conn.

MORE EGGS

You can get them if you will feed Harvey's Electric Poultry Food, Cut Alfalfa Hay and Harvey's Mixed Grains. They are great egg producers and will keep your hens busy. Why not try them and make more money? Sample and free catalog tells how. Write for it today.
Harvey Seed Co., 706 Ellicott St., Buffalo, N. Y.

BONNIE BRAE
New Rochelle, N. Y.

Breeders of strictly high class Single and Rose Comb White Leghorns, White Wyandottes, White and Barred Plymouth Rocks, and Pekin Ducks. Sixty-five ribbons and two silver cups won at the last Poughkeepsie, Danbury, Walden, and Madison Square Garden shows. Eggs for hatching now ready in any quantity at \$6 to \$8 per 100; \$1.50 and \$2 per sitting. Eighty per cent fertility guaranteed. Send for free circular. Choice breeding cockerels and Pekin Ducks still on hand in any quantity. Largest plant in vicinity of New York city. Incubators, 10,000 eggs capacity.

She's Too Lousy

A printed five minutes talk sent free to everybody. "How to Keep Away Vermin Permanently," saving monthly expenses for whitewash, kerosene, insect powder, lice killers.

Carbolineum Wood Preserving Co.,
348 W. B'way, New York.

Wide Awake Poultry Farm.

Breeding White Rocks exclusively for nine years. Bred to lay and bred to win. Recent winnings—At Wilkes Barre, 1906, 1 cock; 1 pen; 2 and 3 pullet; White Rock club badge; best cock; best pen. Scranton, '06—2 pullet; 3 cock; 3 hen. Scranton, '07—2 and 4 pen. Eggs \$1.50 to \$3 per 15. Incu. eggs \$5 per 100; 75 per cent fertile guaranteed.
G. W. SWARTS, Ariel, Pa.

The PeepPeepPeep

of little chicks will soon be heard and Cholera will kill its thousands

Conkey's Cholera Remedy

is positively guaranteed cure for Indigestion, Bowel Trouble, Diarrhoea, Dysentery and Sour Crop. Used in drinking water, when fever makes them drink; not in food, when they cannot eat. 50c per Box, postpaid.

Conkey's Celebrated Book on Poultry Diseases Free. 48 pages of solid information. Send 4c in stamps and names of two others interested. GET IT NOW.
THE G. E. CONKEY CO.,
56 Ottawa Bldg., Cleveland, O., U. S. A.

White Wyandottes? Genesee Strain Of Course.

SEE THE

GENESEE WYANDOTTE FARM,

343 N. Main Street,

WELLSVILLE. - N. Y.

ABOUT THEM.

Rhode Island Reds!



Greatest layers on earth. Hardy, Prolific, Farm-bred Birds from the original Tripp-Macomber stock for sale at moderate prices.

WALTER SHERMAN,
Newport, R. I.

I have also Buff, White, Silver, and Golden Wyandottes; White, Barred, Black, and Buff Rocks; Brown, White, and Buff Leghorns; Black Minorcas and Javas; Light Brahmas, "Eggs to Hatch" from all above breeds at 10c each.



SECURITY Sealed Leg Bands

Rivet and Band one piece of Aluminum.
New, novel and the safest Leg Band made; cannot come off, and must be destroyed to be removed. Recommended by leading breeders. Send 4c in stamps for sample, and get circular. Interesting prices.

STAPLER SEED & POULTRY
SUPPLY COMPANY,

414 FERRY ST., PITTSBURGH, PA.

Head'rs for Poultry, Bee and Garden Supplies.

ROCK AND RED.

My exhibit of White Plym. Rocks and S. C. Reds won 20 prizes at Exeter, also winners at Portland and other shows. Choice eggs that hatch young chicks that live fully described in my free circular. Send for it.
GRAND VIEW POULTRY FARM,
W. H. LANG, prop., Stratham, N. H.

To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you — please them — and help us.

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Classified advertisements may be inserted in this column and in any other column of this paper at a special rate. No advertisement containing more than TWO lines can be accepted. All parts of lines will be charged as one full line. No limit to number of lines and no charge for insertion. An advertiser can divide his copy and have an advertisement in many places at the same time. Cost of classified advertising will be at a uniform rate of 25 cents per line, each end every insertion; no less price per line for any number of lines or times ordered. Copy will be changed as often as desired without extra cost. About 100 ordinary words make a line. Initials and figures count as words. We classify the headings in alphabetical order, the value of which arrangement to the advertiser is at once apparent, enabling the buyer to immediately locate advertisements of any particular kind in which he may be interested.

WANTED

Your credit is good with us. START A BUSINESS OF YOUR OWN—we trust you with the goods and help get the customers. PURITAN POULTRY REMEDIES are famous—sell them—handle the best. We start you in a good paying business of your own to tide you over the dull summer months when your egg business drops off and when "it is all going out and nothing coming in." If honest, write for our novel CREDIT TERMS and full particulars. All goods sent prepaid. D. A. deLima & Co., Incorporated, Sole Distributors, 291 Broadway, New York City, N. Y.

BANTAMS.

BANTAMS, 20 variety; circular 2 cent stamp. A. A. Fern, Box 52, Delavan, Wis.

BUFF and Black Cochins eggs, \$1 per 13. Geo. Monroe, Jr., Dryden, N. Y.

BRAHMAS.

LIGHT Brahmas only. Hardy stock, bred for winter layers. Selected eggs \$1 for 13; \$5 for 100. Haystack Mountain Farm, Norfolk, Conn.

LIGHT BRAHMAS exclusively, winners at the largest shows. Eggs from six grand matings, \$3 for 13. Balch & Brown, Box 361, Manchester, Conn.

BREEDING STOCK.

ALL BREEDS of live pure bred poultry, pigeons, pheasants, turkeys, rabbits, Belgian hares, caviar, dogs, cats, and all pet stock. A complete list in our large 162-page catalogue. Exporter Wire and Poultry Supply Co., Dept. 1, 28 and 28 Vesey St., New York City.

EGGS, EGGS, from our prize winning heavy laying White Wyandottes and Barred Plymouth Rocks at half price after April 15, \$1 per 13. Quality and good hatch guaranteed. Crystal Poultry Farm, R. F. D., Washington, N. J.

HENS, 20 good laying hens to sell at 75 cts. each. A. W. Waite, Morrisville, Vt.

CHARCOAL.

CHARCOAL \$1.50 per bbl., freight prepaid to any station east of Mississippi river. Six sizes to choose from; write for samples. Thomas Bros. Co., Beach St. and Columbia Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

CHARCOAL, Medium fine or granulated \$1.75 per bbl. Freight paid east of the Mississippi. The Park & Pollard Co., Canal St., Boston.

CHARCOAL, In any quantity. W. F. Potter, 157 Plainfield St., Prov., R. I.

CHICKS.

10,000 Barred Rock chicks, 10c. ea.; \$9 per 100; cfr. R. H. Loveland, Lamar, Clinton Co., Pa.

NESTFUL OF YOUNG CHICKS, shipped with "The Little Red Hen" brooder, or separately. All leading varieties. Distance no objection. Winfield, Beech & Company, Salem, N. Y.

COCHINS.

BUFF Cochins, a bargain. Closing out my entire prize stock of breeders and spring chicks, because of moving of owner. Wm. A. Pellett, Saybrook, Conn.

DUCKS.

350 PREMIUM PERIN DUCKS for sale at \$1 each while they last. Eggs \$4 the 100. Stamp for reply. Melvor Duck Farm, Joliet, Ills.

INDIAN RUNNER DUCKS recognize no close season. July and August I shall hatch 100 for next season layers. The all purpose, all seasons, always profitable waterfowl; 12 eggs \$1; 100 \$6. Chestnut Hill Poultry Yards, A. B. Coolidge, Orange, Mass.

RUTHERFORD 1st Pekins, eggs \$2 per 13. Austin B. Crohore, Methuen, N. J.

EGGS.

MADISON Square, 1907, first Golden Polish pullet. Eggs \$2.50 sitting; also exhibition B. 100, R. C. B. Leg's, Pond, geese, and P. ducks, \$2 up; strictly honest value. Rev. W. P. Mackay, Jamaica, L. I., N. Y.

INCUBATOR EGGS from fairly good stock of Buff P. Rocks, Buff Wyandotte, Buff Leghorn, and R. I. Reds, \$4 for 100. Rowland G. Bullinton, Somerset, Mass.

PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH Rocks; Genesee, White Muscovy and Mallard ducks; eggs and stock for sale; write for circular. Henry Gerdsch, breeder fancy poultry, Mendocero, Pittsford, N. Y.

20 EGGS \$1, Reds, Rocks, Wyandottes, Leghorns, Minors; 30 other var.; pigeons, tortois, hares, etc. A. L. Bergey, Box 11, Telford, Pa.

BUFFINTON has reduced the price of eggs from Buff and Partridge Plymouth Rocks, Buff and Columbian Wyandottes, Buff Leghorn, R. and S. Comb Buff and White Orpington, \$1 for 13; incubator eggs from Buff P. Rock, Buff Wyandotte, Buff Leghorn, and R. I. Reds, \$1 for 100. Rowland G. Bullinton, Somerset, Mass.

EGG RECORD.

OUR EGG RECORD cards recorded. Sample 10 cts.; 3 for 25 cts.; 7 for 50 cts.; 15 for \$1. East View Poultry Yards, Box F, Ballston Spa, N. Y.

FARMS FOR SALE.

FOR SALE, -FORTY ACRE FARM with fruit trees, timber land and pasture, also running stream. Eight room house modern throughout. A fine place to raise poultry, is two miles from Alton and thirty miles from St. Louis. Write for circular. Box 106, N. Allen, Ill.

FAVEROLLES.

FAVEROLLES—"The king of utility fowls." Circular for stamp. Dr. Phelps, Also Lakenvelders, Glens Falls, N. Y.

SALMON Faverolles—eggs for hatching from a hardy, vigorous strain of winter layers \$2 per 13. E. L. Frye, 47 Bridge St., Newton, Mass.

FAVEROLLES, Buff Orpingtons, Buff Leghorns, and Lakenvelders, latest importations. Eggs at half price June 1st. Send postal for leaflet. A. F. Melrose, Glens Falls, N. H.

GAMES.

DARTMOOR YARDS Cornish Indians. Our imported males produced and won at Chicago, Jan. 1907, every 1st prize; five exhibitors competing; circular free. Robt. Brent, mgr., Oconomowoc, Wis.

GUINEAS.

PURE White and Pearl guinea eggs my specialty. Booklet orders now. Write for free illustrated catalogue. Learn how to raise guinea broilers, and double your profits. Pioneer Guinea Farm, Marietta, O.

HOUDANS.

HOUDANS, Smith's Premier strain; large, dark, heavy crested birds, bred by trap nest system, winners at New York, Boston, and other shows. A few trios for sale. Eggs \$3 per sitting. Park View Poultry Yards, W. Springfield, Mass.

TWO breeding pens of Houdans \$8 to \$12 each. Fairland Farm, Bridgewater, Vt.

INCUBATORS AND BROODERS.

THE LITTLE RED HEN—The safest, simplest and latest chick brooder, holds only enough chicks to be cared for properly, but can be enlarged at will. Natural heat conditions, pure air and perfect ventilation. Novel and interesting and embodies the latest scientific discoveries. Nestful of chicks shipped with it if desired. All leading varieties. Winfield, Beech & Company, Salem, N. Y.

JAVAS.

BLACK JAVAS, Eggs and chicks from 8 to 10 lb. 954 point hens, bred to 10 lb. 944 point cock; hens for sale. G. M. Mathews, Brocton, N. Y.

LEG BANDS.

COLORLED LEG BANDS, hand poultry, pigeons in colors, identify at sight; samples, price list for stamp. A. P. Spiller, Beverly, Mass.

LEGHORNS.

BOSTON and New York winners, R. C. White Leghorn stock; eggs at \$2 per 13; circular free. C. F. Ensign, Stepaney, Conn.

\$4 PER 100; \$5 per 200; \$2.50 for 50 eggs. Will ship strong fertile eggs from S. C. White Leghorns that are extra heavy layers and large in size. Order at once. C. A. Stevens, Box 3, Wilson, N. Y.

BEST S. C. Black Leghorns in New England. Eggs at half price during June. Stock for sale. G. H. Schleck, Exeter, N. H.

LICE PAINT.

ONE YEAR LICE PAINT will keep houses, brooders, etc., free from mites if used once a year; 50c. gal. Woodsdale Poultry Plant, Summit, R. I.

MINORCAS.

1000 Minorcas, best quality, 28 page cat. Geo. H. Northrup, R. F. D. 2, Raceville, N. Y.

BLACK Minorca eggs, \$3; two sittings, \$5. B. Stone, 187 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

S. C. B. Minorcas; eggs \$2 per 13. Mrs. Geo. L. Monroe, Dryden, N. Y.

ORPINGTONS.

ORPINGTONS, BUFF, BLACK, WHITE. Why not have the very best obtainable? First cost may be a little more, but you get the stock and blood from the greatest winning strain in America, and from the largest Orpington breeder. Send for forty page descriptive Orpington catalogue, also mating list describing 111 variety, showing yards and prices of eggs. (Full) sent from the largest winners at New York. The past 10 years as in these yards. Box 29, Willow Brook Farm, Berlin, Conn.

BUFF and Black Orpingtons, standard bred; few good cockerets. Eggs \$2 and \$3 sitting; young chicks. H. Pearson, 500 Valley St., So. Orange, N. J.

BLACK ORPINGTONS, WHITE LEGHORNS, stock and eggs; June hatched Leghorns will develop before winter; July Orpingtons will develop in spite of winter; eggs are from strong healthy standard stock, hatching well, and a majority of pullets. Enterprise P. Yards, Ridgely, Conn.

BUFF and Buff Orpingtons and Salmon Faverolles, stock and eggs. Arthur Waite, Rockville, Mass.

WHITE AND BUFF Orpingtons, won cup special for best shaped male and other prizes at Auburn. Write for mating list. Eggs \$2 to \$5. L. Crocker, Seneca Falls, N. Y.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

BUFF ROCKS, winners of 100 premiums in three years; solid in color; stock and eggs. Dr. Coolidge, Bristol, N. H.

BARRED, White, Buff Rocks; S. C. White Leghorns; Homer pigeons, winners at Madison Sq. and other leading shows; 51 acres devoted to poultry. Splendid stock reasonable. Eggs \$2, 15; 3 sittings, \$5; \$8 100. A. W. Silkworth, Box 25, Mattituck, L. I., N. Y.

WHITE ROCKS, bred to lay, bred to win. Breeding birds mated by L. K. Felch; females score from 92 to 96; males from 95 to 96. Stock and eggs for sale. M. L. Rice, prop., Hope Poultry Farm, Ashburnham, Mass.

WHITE PLYMOUTH Rock eggs, or newly hatched chicks by the thousand, hundred, sitting, or dozen. Good stock; prices low. Woodstock Poultry Plant, Summit, R. I.

HAWKINS STRAIN pure. Eggs \$2 per 13, from pen headed by cockerel bought of Hawkins for \$15. My Rocks have won at five shows; incubator eggs \$5 per 100. Also, White Leghorns and White Wyandottes \$1 per 13; \$4 per 100. Also, Beagle puppies. H. A. Conant, Port Chester, N. Y.

BRED to lay, Barred Rocks, trap nested, five generations; 200 eggers; booklet free. Eggs, 50 per cent fertile and hatching fine; 15 for \$1.50; 100 for \$8. L. R. Black, R. 3, East Holden, Maine.

BUFF Rocks, 2 fine cocks for sale; yellow even buff, \$15. Noyes, New London, Conn.

PRINTING.

POULTRY POST CARDS, beautiful illustrations, 15c per dozen, assorted or all one kind, 100 with your advt. \$1.50; 500 \$3.50; sample free, other printing for poultrymen reasonable and up to date. Fink & Sons, 14 South Fifth St., Philadelphia, Pa.

RHODE ISLAND REDS.

RHODE ISLAND REDS, winners of 1st prizes, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Rochester, and Cincinnati. Eggs at \$2.50 per 13; special matings at \$5 per 15. House Rock Poultry Farm, C. M. Bryant, prop., Wollaston, Mass.

EGGS from Shove's Rose and Single Comb Rhode I. Reds and Houdans, \$2 for 13; \$5 for 40; have been breeding them for the last ten years. Also Pekin ducks and Homer pigeons. Be sure and send for circular. A few good birds for sale. D. P. Shove, Fall River, Mass.

WHITE Birch Poultry Farm, Bridgewater, Mass. S. C. R. I. Reds, Indian Runner and Rouen ducks. See ad., page 307.

RED FEATHER FARM. We guarantee our eggs at \$5 per 100 to be from as good or better stock as that from which others sell eggs at \$6 to \$8 per 100. See ad., page 305.

NOTHING equal to the R. C. breeders sold by A. H. Douglas, R. F. D., Fenton, Mich.

ROSE and Single eggs reduced for June; 15, \$1; 40, \$2. R. Wallace, Athol, Mass.

CLARK FARM, CONCORD, MASS., eggs from best pens, \$1.

TRAP NESTS.

IDEAL Trapnest specialties are the standard; circular free. Frank O. Wellcome, Yarmouth, Maine.

TURKEYS.

BRONZE turkey eggs, from large vigorous stock. Write, T. D. Schfield, Woodstock, N. H.

WANTED.

A SUCCESSFUL poultryman, nearly 15 years practical experience, desires position as working manager. Strictly temperate, reliable, and progressive. Best ref. E. H. Crossman, Centerville, Del.

WYANDOTTES.

BUSINESS W. Wyandottes, stock for sale; trap nests used. Michael K. Boyer, Hammon, N. J.

WHITE WYANDOTTES, our strains are winners the country over; stock for sale at all times. Barnes & Woodbury, Wrentham, Mass.

MADISON SQUARE winners 4th cock, pullets, 3d pen White Wyandottes. Eggs \$2. Thomas Dunstane, Concord, N. H.

COLUMBIAN Wyans, yearling males, females; trios from \$5 up. H. Chase, Andover, Mass.

KEELER strain White Wyandottes. Eggs \$2 per 13; \$3.50 per 30. Anna Magee, Whamoc, Ind.

WHITE Wyandottes exclusively, good layers the year around. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$6 per 100. E. C. Cobb, R. F. D. 8, Oswego, N. Y.

WHY SHOULD YOU send to me for Buff Wyandotte eggs at \$1 and \$2 per 13? M. H. Pincum, Dodge, Mass.

SILVER Laced Wyandottes, yearling hens \$1.50 up. H. F. Chase, Andover, Mass.

SILVER WYANDOTTES, my entire flock of breeders for sale in lots to suit. J. C. Jodrey, Box A, Dauvers, Mass.

FOR SALE, SILVER PENCILLED WYANDOTTES. As I am done setting eggs for this season, first prize cockerel at Worcester, Mass., and 6 fine hens. Eggs that will hatch prize winners. G. W. Felton, Cliffondale, Mass., President of Silver Pencilled Wyandotte Club.

WIGWARM

BROODERS

are the product of 17 years successful brooder building. New catalogue explains all about them. Free on request. Write today.

E. F. HODGSON,
Box 25, Dover, Mass.

feeds are properly composed for the best results. For scratch food for chicks the first three weeks I feed Class A. Cyphers Model chick feed; after that I use 2 qts. cracked corn to one of cracked wheat until eight or nine weeks old, when I add to this mixture whole oats, and finally give them the same proportion as I feed the old hens."

The trouble here is the too common one with those who practice dry feeding, finding that the dry feed fowls can stand—for awhile—a more concentrated ration than they have been feeding, and give perhaps better results, feed a very concentrated ration. This may possibly be done with safety if the other feeding is liberal enough to keep them from eating the dry mash so freely that they get the full effects of the excess of such foods as beef scraps, linseed and cotton seed meal. In a mixture of 21 quarts of dry feed Mr. M. has seven quarts, one-third of the whole, of the three high protein foods mentioned, while the two quarts of red dog flour must be elased as tending to the same effects. I would suggest increasing the quantity of shorts to make it nearly half the mixture, and then making it a point to see that the hens are so liberally supplied with grain that they will not eat too much dry mash. The dry mash has been so much exploited as relieving the poultryman of responsibility and labor that those using it are apt to depend too much upon it. Dry feeding of the ingredients as used in most wet mashes is not likely to be accompanied by looseness, but if you add a lot more loosening food you get to a point where the dry ground grain does not check the effects of the other ingredients.

Blind Hens. (E. B. M.)—"What makes chickens go blind? I had a number of pullets that I had to dress full grown. They became so they could not see the feed hoppers; they became so from two pounds until full grown. They never had a cold or swelled head, or were never snotty or rompy. They were perfectly healthy as far as I could see. Had no canker."

The most common causes of blindness in fowls are conjunctivitis and keratitis, which generally develop from colds, and are associated with somewhat pronounced roup conditions. Blindness doubtless does occur sometimes from other causes, but it is much more probable that Mr. M. has failed to note symptoms less pronounced than those he may have been accustomed to associate with roup.

"Don't let people forget that you are still doing business and inviting their trade. They are convinced of your honesty and reliability, and so you have a certain advantage if you will but keep your offerings before them.—Advertising.

To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you—please them—and help us.

MARKET REVIEW.

Conditions of publication of a magazine make the use of market quotations of the date of issue impracticable. But a magazine can—as we do—review market conditions and prices, and, by study of such reports, readers gain acquaintance with matters influencing the markets, with the grading of poultry supplies, and the relative values of various grades of eggs and poultry.

BOSTON.

Boston Produce Market Report, June 6, 1907.

Eggs.

Receipts for six days, 43,118 cases; same week last year, 67,354 cases; previous six days, 51,281 cases; since April 1—554,794 cases; same time last year, 542,428 cases. Receipts have been considerably lighter than last week, but demand has been slack, and supplies more than ample for trade wants. Best western regular packings have been dull at 16¢@16½¢, and 17¢, has been the top for fancy storage packed. Some common to good western offering at 15¢@15½¢. Western dirties have been selling fairly, but at easy prices. Fancy hennerly in good supply and steady at 20¢.

Quotations at Mark.

Fancy hennerly..... 20. @
Me., Vt., N. H., and N. Y. extras..... 18. @19
Me., Vt., N. H., and N. Y., common to good..... 16. @17
Ind., Ills. and N. Ohio, selected..... @16½
Other choice western..... @16
Western common to good..... 15. @15½
Tenn. and other southern fresh laid..... 15. @15½
Western dirties..... 13½. @14½

Storage packed—

Michigan, Indiana, etc., fancy..... @17
Other choice western..... 16½. @17

Dressed Poultry.

Receipts six days, 5,522 packages; same time last year, 4,181 packages.

Western and fowls have been more plenty, in rather light demand, and riding easier since our last weekly report. Best marks have been in only moderate demand at 15¢, since Monday, and some ordinary have been selling at 14¢@14½¢. Western broilers in limited supply, and strictly fancy steady at 30¢. Old cocks keep well sold up at 11¢@11½¢. Choice northern and eastern fowls continue scarce, and small lots bring full prices. Broilers increasing in supply, and have to be fancy to exceed 35¢. Green ducks steady at 15¢@16¢. Frozen turkeys still moving slowly. Frozen chickens in fair supply and steady demand. No fowls offering.

Fresh Killed Northern and Eastern—

Fowls, choice..... @17
Fowls, common to good..... 14. @16
Green ducks, ½ lb..... 15. @16

Nearby Broilers—

Choice 3½ to 4 lbs. to pair, ½ lb..... 35. @37
Squabs, broilers, ½ pair..... 75. @90
Pigeons, choice, ½ doz..... \$1 25 @ \$1 50
Pigeons, common to good..... 75 @ 1 00
Squabs, ½ doz..... 2 00 @ 2 50

Ice-packed

Turkeys..... 14. @15
Fowls, selected..... 15. @
Fowls, common to good..... 14. @14½
Broilers, fancy ½ lb..... 30. @
Broilers, fair to good ½ lb..... 25. @28
Old cocks..... 11. @11½

Western Frozen—

Turkeys, choice No. 1, ½ lb..... 16. @18
Turkeys, medium, No. 1..... 14. @15
Turkeys, No. 2..... 10. @13
Capons..... 16. @17
Chickens, choice soft roasting..... 16. @17
Chickens, fair to good..... 12. @15
Broilers, fancy, ½ lb..... 18. @22
Fowls, choice..... 15. @
Fowls, common to good..... 13. @14
Ducks..... 14. @15
Geese..... 10. @12

Live Poultry.

Receipts of eastern fowls are still light, and the small lots of choice stock coming meet with a ready sale at 15¢. Broilers in limited supply and steady at 25¢@30¢, ½ lb.

Fowls, ½ lb..... 14½. @15
Spring chickens, ½ lb..... 25. @30
Roosters, ½ lb..... 9. @

NEW YORK.

From the Producers' Price Current, June 5, 1907.

Eggs.

Receipts today, 18,936 cases; last six days, 123,098; previous six days, 133,114.

There is an appreciable loss of quality in many of the shipments, which gives the trade a good many more cheap eggs.

N. Y. Mercantile Exchange Official Quotations.
Fresh gathered, extras, ½ doz..... @19
Nearby, firsts to extra firsts..... 16. @17
Fresh gathered, western, extra firsts..... 16½. @17
Western, fresh gathered, firsts..... @16
Western, fresh gathered, seconds..... 15. @15½
Kentucky and Tennessee, seconds..... 11½. @15
Fresh gathered, thirds..... 14. @14
Fresh gathered, dirties, No. 1..... 11. @11½
Fresh gathered, dirties, No. 2..... 13. @13½
Checked eggs..... 10. @12

Dressed Poultry.

Receipts today, 1,803 packages; last six days, 7,457; previous six days, 9,636; corresponding six days last year, 13,420.

Fresh meats of all kinds are unusually high, and little frozen poultry that will compete with fowls remaining in first hands. Broilers in comparatively moderate supply, and prices held about the same, but the demand is limited for both nearby and western lots. Old roosters in light supply and firm. The few fresh killed turkeys coming show unattractive quality and selling slowly. Long Island and other nearby spring ducks more plenty today, and only moderately active, but held about steady. Squabs in fair demand and steady. Frozen poultry having a satisfactory outlet, and desirable grades generally firm.

FRESH KILLED—ICED.

Turkeys
Hens, average best..... @14
Western, toms, average best..... @13
Fair to good..... 12. @12½
Inferior..... 10. @11

Broilers—
Philadelphia, 3 to 4 lbs. to pair, per lb..... 40. @45
Pennsylvania, 3 to 4 lbs. to pair, per lb..... 35. @37
Philadelphia, squab broilers, per pair..... 60. @80
Western, dry picked..... 30. @35
Western, scalded..... 25. @30

Fowls—
Western, dry picked, fancy med. wgt., culls out, barrels..... @15½
Western, dry picked, heavy..... 14½. @15
Western, dry picked, poor to medium..... 12. @14
Western, scalded, fancy, culls out..... @15½
Western, scalded, heavy..... 14½. @15
Western, scalded, poor to medium..... 12. @14

Other Poultry—
Old cocks, dry picked..... @11½
Old cocks, scalded..... @11½
Ducks, spring, L. I. and eastern..... @19
Ducks, spring, Pennsylvania..... @18
Ducks, spring, Virginia..... 17. @18
Squabs, prime white, 10 lbs. to doz. 3 doz. \$4 00 @ \$4 25
Squabs, prime white, 9 lbs. to doz. per doz. 3 50 @ 3 75
Squabs, prime white, 8 lbs. to doz. 3 00 @ 3 25
Squabs, prime white, 7 lbs. to doz. 2 25 @
Squabs, prime white, 6½ lbs. to doz. 1 75 @ 2 00
Squabs, mixed, per doz. 1 75 @ 2 00
Squabs, dark, per dozen..... @ 1 25
Squabs, culls, per dozen..... 50 @ 60

Live Poultry.

Receipts today, 12 cars western, 3 cars southwestern, and 1 car southern by freight, and about 1 car scattering lots by express. Spring chickens are rather more plenty, and with a slow trade prices were reduced yesterday afternoon to 28¢. Fowls continue in good demand, and firmly held. Turkeys selling slowly. Ducks and geese unchanged. Guinea fowls steady. Live pigeons in light supply, and prices were advanced yesterday afternoon to 35¢.

N. Y. Live Poultry Commission Merchants Protective Association Official Quotations.
Spring chickens, per lb..... @28
Fowls, per lb..... @16
Roosters, young and old, per lb..... @10
Turkeys, per lb..... @12
Ducks, old, per lb..... @13½
Geese, western, per lb..... @16
Geese, southern and south-western, poor.. @ 8
Guinea fowls, per pair..... @ 60
Pigeons, per pair..... @35

PHILADELPHIA.

From official market report of the Philadelphia Produce Exchange, June 4, 1907.

Eggs.

Receipts of desirable stock continue moderate, and the market for this description is firm, with a good demand that promptly absorbs all offerings. As noted in previous reports, a great deal of the supply consists of medium and poor eggs, which have to be moved out at best rates obtainable.

Pa. and nearby firsts, at mark, free cases.. @17½
Pa. and nearby current receipts in returnable crates..... @16½
Pa. and nearby seconds, at mark, free cases..... @16
Western, firsts, at mark..... @17½
Western, seconds, at mark..... @16½
Southwestern, firsts, at mark..... @17½
Southern, fresh, at mark..... @15½

Dressed Poultry.

Receipts of fresh killed fowls and broiling chickens continue very light, and the market is in good shape and firm, with demand fully equal to the offerings. Squabs are in ample supply and quiet.

Fresh Killed—
Fowls, choice, small and medium..... @16
Fowls, fair to prime..... 15. @15½
Old roosters, dry picked..... 11. @
Broilers, weighing 14 lbs. each..... 35. @38

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A Good Opportunity.

Mr. J. C. Jodrey, of Danvers, Mass., the well known breeder of Silver Wyandottes, informs that he has the best lot of chicks that he has had for years. A source of considerable satisfaction to him is that buyers almost without exception, have been thoroughly satisfied with results obtained from his eggs this season. As he finds it necessary to dispose of mature stock to make room, this affords Silver Wyandotte breeders a good opportunity to obtain some choice breeding birds of that variety.

An Acknowledgment.

We are in receipt of the J. Stevens Arms & Tool Company's latest Book of Reference. It is by far the largest and most complete catalogue this enterprising company has gotten out. From the exceedingly attractive full color front cover to the new cuts of their mammoth factory on the back page, this book is full of facts interesting and valuable to the sportsman or any one in fact who is interested in fire-arms and their proper care.

Interesting chapters on ammunition, points on shooting, how to purchase fire-arms, sights, etc., make this a valuable acquisition to any man's library.

Anyone who will write the J. Stevens Arms & Tool Company, Chicopee Falls, Mass., asking for catalogue No. 52, and enclosing 5c. to cover postage, will receive this valuable publication free.

Corfu, N. Y., Fanciers' Club.

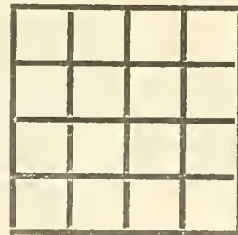
The annual meeting of the Corfu Fanciers' Club was held on May 22, '07. H. E. Stevens was re-elected president, and G. R. Colby, sec'y, in place of Mr. Chas. Phelps, resigned.

The association has held four very successful shows, and are looking forward for the next show, which will occur Dec. 3—6, 1907, to be the largest in its history. In making your show dates for next winter, do not overlook Corfu. They offer liberal regular and special prizes. First of all, every prize is paid on the last day of the show. Hoping to see you in December. G. R. COLBY, Sec'y.

\$50.00, CASH, FREE.

Can You Count the Squares?

Here, for once, is an original puzzle—one that you have never tried before. Can you count the squares in the figure opposite? It looks easy at first, but it takes quite a little insight and skill. There are a lot more squares in this figure than you would at first ever suppose. For instance, there are sixteen little squares, to begin with; then there is the big square itself, on the outside of the figure—and a lot of other squares, too if you are shrewd enough to find them. This puzzle looks simple, but if you can make out as many as seventeen squares, send in your list at once—immediately—for the winners may not secure more. Read the list of prizes below.



\$50.00 In Prizes

to be distributed Sept. 1, 1907. To the person sending in the correct or nearest correct as well as the cleverest solution of the largest number of squares, we will give **\$25.00 in cash**; to the second largest number, **\$10.00 in cash**; to the third, **\$5.00**; to the next five, **\$1.00**; the next ten, **50 cents each**, and there are no conditions whatsoever connected with this contest. Where "ties" occur for prizes, such prizes will be divided between the contestants who may be "tied." If you count the squares best, you are absolutely sure of winning something. Therefore, send in your count at once—today. We give away this money expressly to introduce our great new monthly 32-page periodical. Therefore, no money is required from you whatsoever, as we make this offer in order to secure your address and to send you—absolutely free—a beautiful copy of what the publisher intends shall be the greatest high-class magazine of its kind ever published. This contest, consequently, is absolutely without restrictions of any nature. Therefore, send in your solution at once—today—it costs you nothing, and, in addition, we will show you how you can also take part in our other contest, in which there will be distributed, monthly \$1,075.00.

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The Story of the Moneytoburn Poultry Farm.

everything about the place when he becomes connected with it. Possibly you would find that out yourself, but he might not talk as freely to you as he has been talking, and I thought I'd give you a hint."

"Much obliged. Where is he?"

"Somewhere about the place, planning further changes, I presume."

Even as he spoke the man appeared. He had been notified by one of the men that the superintendent had arrived, and had made haste to meet him.

Carter questioned him for some minutes about his experience and previous engagements, and finding as he continued questioning that the replies were not always consistent, began a more systematic examination of the candidate.

"You say you have not acted as manager, except on your own farm?"

"No; I've been actual manager on a number of farms, though not engaged as manager. Fact is, after I worked on a place a little while it seemed the natural thing for them to leave the management of it to me."

"And about handling men: You have had that to do, I suppose?"

"That's my strongest hold. I can systematize the work and keep everything going like clock work."

"How large a plant have you managed in that way?"

The man paused a moment, then noticing that Carter was expecting a prompt answer, replied: "There have been so many places about the same size and number of men that I couldn't say off-hand where the most men were. I think at Clyde's, several years ago. I had four men under me there."

"Why, what the devil were they doing with a manager and four men at Clyde's?" asked Carter. "I know

Clyde and his place well. He and his wife run it with sometimes the help of one man—usually a half invalid who is glad to get country air and to think he is learning the poultry business. I don't see where you ever fit in at Clyde's, except in that capacity."

"I don't know how well you know Clyde and his business," replied the man, "but I'm giving you the facts. I've had four men working under me at Clyde's."

"Four poultrymen?"

"Not exactly, but we were all on poultry work."

"What kind of work?"

"Handling sand into the houses."

"Where was Clyde?"

"He had been drawn on a jury."

"And how long did you handle the four men?"

"Three days."

"And where was Mrs. Clyde?"

"Oh, she was kind of looking after the poultry."

"And you and the four men, too?" added Carter.

"Just what I thought. Now, my friend, if you want a position as foreman here, you must make a better showing than that. Tell me straight. Did you ever have to carry the responsibility for the work anywhere?"

"Well, if you put it that way, only on my own farm," was the reply.

"Then let's talk about your own farm. You have been away from it I should judge, the greater part of the time for some years?"

"Yes."

"And who manages it in your absence?"

"My wife. After I got things there systematized, I found that there wasn't enough to keep all of us going, so I just said to her, 'Julia, you can manage things here just as well as I can; so I'll get out and get work somewhere else. Then we'll have as much coming in here, and whatever I make in addition.'"

"H'm," observed Carter, "I'm not in a position to

dispute your word; but I rather guess if the truth were known, your wife has managed the place from the start. I don't think we want you as foreman. If I thought you wouldn't be a disturbing element among the men I'd give you a job at, say, \$45 a month, but taking everything into consideration, I guess it's just as well not to. What expense were you at in coming here?"

The man named the amount, and Carter handed it to him.

"What did Horton send us such a fellow for?" asked Moneytoburn that evening, when Carter related the matter to him.

"I don't know," replied Carter. "I'm a little puzzled—as I was at first—about the coincidence of Horton's having two men he thought would fit into just the places we have. Of course these fellows like Horton will exaggerate about the men they recommend, but generally it is only exaggeration, and you can discount it. But the man who was here today Horton must have deliberately misrepresented. The best interpretation I can put on it is that Horton may have thought the fellow would make good if he got a chance. But if he did, it doesn't speak very well for Horton's judgment. What I suspect is that we've come in contact with the new policy of some incubator and supply concerns. I heard from several quarters when at the show, that at least two of them were making special efforts to place on large poultry farms men favorable to their goods. Now about this man Hopper, that we've engaged. Everything looks right on the surface, and while there is in my mind the objection I have given you to the Kingpin goods, that doesn't signify so much as far as the incubators and brooders are concerned. What I am afraid of is that when Hopper gets to work we'll find he wants every detail of his part of the work planned to work in something made and sold by the Kingpin people."

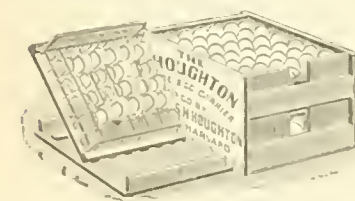
(To be continued.)



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Doesn't Believe in Double Matings.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—In reply to B. P. Y., in F.-P., page 267, May 15th, the Standard does call for complicated breeding in almost every breed and variety. In all the parti-colored varieties it requires the double mating system to produce birds of show room quality. This is where most all beginners fail in the show room. Not knowing how to properly mate to produce the required results, they use the single mating system, which may or may not produce fairly good specimens of one or the other sex, very seldom both sexes.

Now comes the trouble in buying birds of breeders who do not understand the rigid principles in mating for results. I may describe in every particular a bird which would just suit me, and the breeder may have a bird answering my description, but by not knowing the mode of breeding practiced, his bird might give me very unsatisfactory results.

I believe the Standard should be made to conform to the single mating system. Now some may think this is pretty strong, but who does not admire a flock of birds very nearly alike in color of plumage? The single mating system closely followed is the only way to obtain such results, for if we use the double mating system we

will have birds of all shades, making the flocks look very unbecoming. The main objections to the Standard are: they change when the moon changes, making the breeder who may have his flock nearing standard requirements to do his work over again in some points. The Standard goes for beauty, while we who are looking for profits must look at utility. It is not right, and should not be tolerated by the poultrymen of the United States to allow a very few men who have other business from which they derive their income, and have a few fowls on the back part of their city lot for pastime, to dictate what our poultry should look like, regardless of utility.

The time is not far off, and may the day hasten when specialty clubs will make and publish a standard of the breeds and varieties in which they are interested. Let other clubs follow after the plan of the R. I. Red Club, and we will not have to be ruled by a few who ear ride and have good times at our expense.

Some may say, "I have not given them anything to burn on." Have you a Standard of Perfection? If so, they have worked you.

H. C. SNYDER.

Fletcher, O.

Another Way to Cut Spurs.

A GENTLEMAN commonly credited with more practical knowledge of Gamecocks than can be legitimately used in most states, sends us the following:

"I do not want to be quoted, but I noticed several letters in your column of information about cutting off the heels and spurs of breeding fowl. Of course, everybody knows when these heels are long they sometimes injure the hen so that they are of no use for breeding purposes, and also decreases the fertility of the eggs.

"I am enclosing a clipping taken from your late publication, where somebody makes the reply that they can cut the heels and spur off as far as it is dead. Now, everybody that I know of who breeds fowl knows that they can take a fine saw, same as they cut metal with,

and cut the heels off just as close as they want to, and then if the heels bleed, all they have got to do is to put on powdered chalk or sulphate of iron, to prevent the bleeding, and in that way will get the very best results from the male bird, and avoid injuring the female bird on account of the long spurs on the male.

"I am giving you what little information I have on this proposition, and there is no reason why you should not suggest to your readers that this process can be carried out without any injury to the male bird; in other words, they can be sawed off just as short as a man desires to have them sawed, that is, about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch from the leg, and with the process enumerated above, it will prevent the bleeding, with no danger to the bird, and with much better results to the breeding pen."

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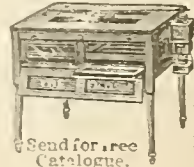
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Fanciers' Information Bureau.

(Continued from page 297.)

dark in regard to successful mating. What I wish to know is, would you advise breeding my cockerel with six or eight hens next year—or would you discard him and buy a pen of another strain?"

It would be well to discard this male on account of his small size alone. Get a male, surely from another strain, if not some females also. There is an age when the feathers are in the quill that they are more liable to show the creamy tinge than at any other time, but it should not last for any great length of time. The bird should bleach out in time, or as soon as the feathers are full length. Some of the best birds of the best strains do not show the creamy tinge at all—that is, do not have such an age.

Probably Canker. (G. R. A.)—"I have a fine R. I. Red cockerel whose voice breaks when crowing; then he begins to wheeze. I doctored him with lard and kerosene melted together, which I squirted in the mouth and nostrils. In watching him closely I discovered he could not pick up small grain. After he had eaten, or tried to eat, for about fifteen minutes, I picked him up, felt of his crop, and found hardly anything in it. I then put him in a run alone, gave him water, sour milk, small grain, and whole corn. The whole corn he could eat very well, and I suppose he can drink all right. He seems to feel pretty well, only is thin, and that is not to be wondered at, as he could not pick up the small grain. I feed a mixture of cracked corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, katfir corn, and wheat: no whole corn, so you see he had a hard time of it."

I should advise looking in this bird's mouth for canker. It may be in the windpipe, or it may be in his throat. Perhaps the reason that he cannot swallow anything but whole corn is that there is a large lump in his mouth that prevents him closing his bill close enough to catch the small grains, or perhaps his throat is raw and small, and cracked grains stick to the lining, causing great annoyance. If canker is the cause, remove it and swab his mouth and throat with a large feather dipped in 50% listerine and 50% water. It would be well to allow him a fair allowance of whole corn if he prefers it to other grains. He should also be fed a liberal supply of green food. Grass, turnips, beets make excellent picking, and form a beneficial class of food for such cases. The milk is an excellent food for a sick bird, except in some cases it sticks to the throat when that organ is diseased, and interferes with the bird's breathing. I do not like your remedy of lard and kerosene. Look carefully into the windpipe for canker in this bird.

White Feathers in Leghorns. (L. R. B.)—"I am breeding Rose Comb Leghorns, and quite a few of the chicks have light feathers in their breasts, and some have white in their wings. I think these will shed out when they shed their baby feathers, but are they an indication that the birds are not as pure as they might be? Would anyone buying eggs from me for hatching, have cause for complaint should they hatch chicks with these light or white feathers? I have a 360 egg Model incubator. Some of my neighbors want me to fill it with their eggs and hatch for them. What would be a reasonable price to charge for my work? If I should take chicks for pay, what per cent of them would be right to take, the eggs being from mixed flocks?"

The subject of white feathers in Brown Leghorns is quite an exhaustive one. There are many reasons for it besides heredity. It often occurs when the parent stock showed no trace of it. The appearance of white is no sign of impurity, but it is a very objectionable feature, as it is a disqualification according to the Standard of Perfection. The fact that the chicks show white does not indicate that they will when mature have white feathers, though they may. These few facts may be put down as certain: First, that Brown Leghorn chicks that are improperly nourished will invariably show white. Second, when the birds are overcrowded, and get too warm they will show white. Again, if some essential food is not supplied in the right proportions, they show it. If chilled so they catch cold, if they become sick, or for any cause their growth

is retarded, they will surely show white. I think the white that has appeared in your flock is probably due to overcrowding and sweating, or head lice, or both combined. Bruising the feathers when in the quill or the flesh will cause white to appear.

A Safe Plan of Purchasing. (G. A. J.)—"I want to purchase some good stock, birds that have a chance to win in fairly good company. Now I could recognize quality and shape that is prominent and stands right out where you can readily see it, but small defects that might be cut heavily or even disqualify I might not see or recognize if I saw them. Would it be policy for me to specify when ordering, that the birds were to score so much, say 90 or 93, and then when I received the birds, take them to a competent judge and have him score them for me? Would not a bird scoring 93 stand a good chance to win in fair company? What would be a fair price to pay for a cock or trio to score 93? What price for one scoring 90? Would a copy of the Standard help me in the selection of birds that should win? I have so far refrained from spending \$1.50 for a copy of the Standard, but I was much impressed with the editorial in FARM-POULTRY relative to the Standard, and I have been wondering if a large majority of the people engaged in poultry keeping are not working in the dark, myself included. Can you recognize any ingredients in my dry mash that cause looseness of the bowels? I know that other people have the same trouble with other ingredients; but it seldom seems to affect their laying or vigor, and is not communicated to the chicks hatched from my hens having loose bowels. An all grain ration might overcome the bowel trouble, but I would not care to hopper feed an all grain ration all the year through, and hopper feeding seems better adapted to my position, as I frequently have to depend on very poor help, and my fowls would be very apt to be overfed one day and underfed the next. My dry mash is composed of the following: Bran, 2 parts; corn meal, 1 part; middlings, 1 part; ground oats, 1 part; sucrose dairy feed, 1 part; sucrose poultry feed, 1 part. Green cut bone is fed every other day in winter, an ounce to a hen if they clean it up readily. In summer I give very little meat food, as fowls have good free range every other day. A mixture of cracked corn and wheat is fed twice daily in the litter, 1 quart to every 25 fowls. The percentage of corn and wheat varies during the year from two parts corn and one part wheat in winter, and vice versa in summer, the change being made gradually. It is the staple feed of my pigeons, and is more convenient to feed the hens from it."

I think your plan of purchase is about as good as could be devised. That is, for one not familiar with the finer points of the game. Another plan on the same lines would be to send a judge to select the birds from some large and good breeder. I recommend a large and good breeder, because such will offer a greater variety for selection, and the chances are that a breeder who is entitled to such distinction will have quite a number to select from. Any one who thinks of showing any fancy fowl should have a Standard of Perfection by all means. Better try to learn to read without books, or to eat without a knife and fork, than to attempt to learn about fancy fowls without the authorized description of them. At the best, your ideas will be but a hearsay description of what you should have, and therefore second handed. Get the Standard, and form your own conclusions. If you are to be a fancier, be one, and select your own fowls after a time. A trio of fowls that would average a score of 93 points would win in most shows. The price of a trio would vary from \$25 to \$100, according to the judge that scored them, and the variety. Some judges score higher than others. All judges have a little unconscious tendency to score higher when the competition is weak, and the good specimens far apart. A 90 point trio is worth \$15 to \$30, according to the variety. Some breeds and varieties are much harder to bring to perfection than others. I see nothing in your dry mash to cause serious looseness of the bowels in fowls except the dairy feed mentioned. All dairy feed is so constituted that it is loosening to fowls. Cows stand more of this sort of thing.

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Peculiarities of the A. P. A. Election.

A SYSTEM of electing officers which gives the results published in our last issue can hardly be regarded as desirable. To people of orderly minds, disposed to favor conditions which make for good government, such a system appears intolerable.

In this election we have had an exhibition of looking out for No. 1, as is not often possible. We do not know how far the individuals affected were responsible for the appearance of their names as candidates for several offices—only one of which they could hold. What we have to say of the situation is said without reference to its personal bearing.

A method of electing officers which permits of the use of one man's name on the same ballot for different terms or offices tends to make the election a mere scramble for office, favors the professional office-seeker, and puts other candidates in a position which most will not find pleasant, and which is in fact unfair to them.

It happens that the candidate whose election as first vice-president is reported, received the smallest number of votes for that office. But, as he received a very substantial vote for president, his vote for vice-president cannot be taken as the measure of esteem in which he was held among candidates for that office. Mr. Crawford received ballots for four offices, president, first vice-president, and member of the executive board for three years, and also for two years. Considering each vote independently, he was not elected to any office. Defeated for president, where he had 141 votes, and for member of the executive board, where he had in one case 96, and in the other 194 votes, he is declared elected vice-president, in which contest he had but six votes, while the leading candidate had 196.

Mr. Donovan, who was first slated for president, receives the highest number of votes for vice-president, but is declared ineligible on account of residence, because from the same province as Wm. McNeal, elected member of the executive board for 3 years. Under the usual practice in elections (not mail) in organizations of this general character the election for first vice-president would immediately follow that for president. Then in a case like this, supposing the votes by direct ballot

the same as by mail ballot, Mr. Donovan would be elected vice-president, and Mr. McNeal would be ineligible to the office of member of the executive board.

It does not appear from the election commissioner's report by what authority he decides that the memberships of the elective members of the executive board are to be determined first, and the question of eligibility to the office of first vice-president settled in accordance with these. The rule he appears to have followed was to give each state or province, where it had two candidates, the position for which a candidate received the highest number of votes, and to give to a person running for more than one position, the position for which he received the highest number of votes. It is perhaps as fair a rule as could be devised for such a situation, but the situation is an unfortunate one. If the constitution gives the commissioner power to adjust such matters, we have overlooked that point in reading the constitution.

The case of Mr. Hewes is different. He, in case Mr. Donovan is declared ineligible, is elected to two offices—first vice-president and member of the executive board for three years. The election commissioner declares that Hewes is ineligible as vice-president. Why as vice-president rather than as elective member of the board? As a member of the board for three years he is a member of the board for three years; as vice-president he is a member for one year, and must stand his chances next year on re-election. Of course he prefers the three year term. If he had failed of election for that term he would have been eligible as first vice-president, and would still be for one year a member of the executive committee.

Oh, what a beautiful arrangement! Will everybody acquiesce in the results as found by the election commissioner?

For secretary, Mr. Hallock wins by a numerically handsome majority, but his methods of conducting his campaign have subjected him to a great deal of caustic comment, and created widespread distrust of him, which can be of no benefit either to him or to the association. Unless he can redeem himself in the eyes of a good many members and do it very quickly, he would appear to stand little show of a re-election.

A New Idea In Breeding for Sex.

WE WRITE the above head line with mental reservations. It is never well to be too sure that there is anything new in poultry culture. We are not, however, able to recall that the "principle" presented in the following article has before appeared in print. The reprint is from a translation (in *Poultry*, Eng.) of an article by Mr. Arthur Wulff, in the German *Geflugel-Zeitung*:

"Time and again has it been our unfortunate experience to discover among the progeny of our cockerel breeding pen a preponderance of females, while the pullet breeding pen has produced a majority of the male element—and that is the point where we should like to make nature subservient to our will.

"The control of the sexes in the progeny of living beings has for hundreds of years, we say thousands of years been a favorite subject with physiologists (not merely breeders of animals). Who does not remember the excitement caused some ten years ago by Schenck's theory, proved upon further investigation to be untenable? The statistical material relied upon in similar cases is generally not comprehensive enough both as to number of objects and duration of experiments. One is apt to generalize from accidental results—and therein lies the weakness of most former propositions.

"Of greater value than the statistics of the human race is the record (well supported by documentary evidence) of our most important domestic animal—the horse. The considerable size and costli-

ness of the individual, the consequent easy determination of identity, the long period of gestation, the birth of (invariably) but one young at a time, and especially the careful registration of the stallion's 'visits,' combine to furnish weighty material, from which we draw the conclusion that foals in cases where the mare has been 'covered' in the evening (that is after the stallion had been previously used during the day) will generally follow the sex of the mother.

"We do not know whether this fact, which is no doubt capable of a plausible explanation (the older seminal cords—*Samenfaden* in German—have a tendency to produce male, the younger ones female offspring), has already been noticed in the poultry world, though we may add that we alluded to it two years ago. At all events, poultry is in our opinion specially adapted to similar experiments, owing to its, shall we say, handier size, and to its capability of great and speedy reproduction. The poultry breeder, therefore, is preeminently the man to assist science, being placed in a much more favorable position than the breeder of mammals. And here I now beg leave to adduce two examples from personal experience, the first an accidental case, (I was not then acquainted with Carl Gerot's 'The Sex of the Embryo'); the second an intentional experiment, not (by a long way) as final proofs, but merely as links of a progressive chain of evidence.

"In the year 1899, in the midst of the breeding season, (beginning of April), I

bought a fine Minorca hen. Not wishing to put her into my breeding pen, whose members had not visited any show since autumn, and were just in full lay, when the introduction of a stranger generally causes a disturbance of acquired conservative habits, I placed the fresh arrival in a small aviary. In the evening when the inmates of the breeding pen had retired to rest, I took out the male bird and put him into the run of the aviary, then turned out the stranger hen as well, when he invariably 'attended' to her at once. From forty eggs laid by this hen and set I obtained only pullets.

"Last year, proceeding on the same lines, I got 11% cockerels and 89% pullets. (During the interval I did not do much breeding).

"It is not so very difficult to arrange these matters with our poultry, as vigorous male birds are generally pretty 'active' throughout the day. Therefore, place your hens intended for cockerel breeding into the run with the male as soon as they leave their house in the morning, and remove them again early. Your pullet

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breeding hens should not associate with their appointed mate until evening, the latter having been with other hens during the day, (but, of course, the special hens must not in the meantime run with other cocks). Active males generally pay immediate 'attention' to strangers of the other sex, and it is desirable in this present instance for breeders to watch the process. (It is, as a rule, only a case of one, two, or three hens specially destined for the experiment). Should, after abundant tests, a real law of nature be here discovered, the future of poultry breeding would certainly appear in a rosy light. I am far from asserting that the law would universally apply, but we certainly ought to try to find out if, and to what extent, it can be proved.

Compared with previous attempts in a similar direction, the method here proposed has the advantage of easier control. That the external appearance of the egg—as has been supposed—can have any influence on the sex of the progeny, is quite out of the question; this much is clear to everyone conversant with the origin of the egg. Neither is the time of laying (morning or evening) of any importance, for it is a well known fact that constant layers produce their eggs later each successive day.

It has further been assumed that the sex which at the moment of coition possesses greater sexual potency, prevails with the offspring. Herein we already find a close approach to the theory utilized by us. Attempts have been made to influence matters by the differing ages of the birds; one says an aged rooster mated with young pullets produces chiefly female progeny; another maintains the opposite—and both are right. The fact is that we cannot form a sufficiently accurate estimate of the sexual potency in this general manner to enable us to produce a continual prevalence of the desired sex. As far as the act of coition is concerned, however, the method we propose takes us much nearer to the goal of our ambition.

Generally speaking, the sexual life of the hen follows a much more placid course than that of the rooster; and this rule applies also to other polygamous creatures. Noticeable sexual excitement is only exhibited by young pullets at the commencement of the laying period, and by fat old hens; while, on the other hand, the activity of the male bird does not require further comment. It is, of course, essential for the success of our experiment that vigorous males of frequently 'atten-

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LEE T. HALLOCK, Prop., Box A, Iowa, N. J.

tive habits be selected in order to obtain a real difference between the ages of the seminal cords of the first acts of coition (after the night's rest) in the morning and those of the evening (after many previous acts).

My plan for carrying out an experiment on these lines would be as follows:—The cockerel breeding rooster spends the night best by himself, or with hens in a dark house. In the morning you place him with the selected one, two, or three females (I do not advise more for a beginning), and he will 'attend' to them at once. If practicable the hen he mated with should be immediately removed so as to induce him to serve the others, for repeated attention to one favorite might spoil the result aimed at. You next remove him and place him into some other pen with a moderate number of hens (of course, his special mates must not in the meantime run with other male birds).

The pullet breeding hens have a house to themselves. In the daytime they may run with their cockerel breeding sisters, there is no objection to this, provided that an easy separation can be effected in the evening. Their destined mate runs meanwhile with other hens until evening, when you remove him and place him into his proper pen. His duty fulfilled, away he goes again to his night quarters. Of course, all the birds must be well looked after (as usual in the case of breeding pens) in order to produce healthy and vigorous offspring.

The manipulation just described is not so very difficult where proper arrangements already exist for separate cockerel and pullet breeding. The matter looks more complicated on paper than it will prove in reality, and we should like as many of our friends as possible to give it a trial and to inform us of the result. Nothing perhaps may thereby be gained; on the other hand there can be no loss.

It will entirely depend on the, we trust, very numerous participation of breeders whether the evidence can be finally summed up with *Enreka* or *Ignoramus*.

A Beginner's Experience.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—I would like to write you a little interesting matter of my ten months experience in the poultry pastime. I started last July by erecting a 20 ft. building, 10 ft. deep, and started with 15 hens and a handsome Rhode Island rooster, and since January 1st they have laid 315 eggs, and that I consider a very good record up to May 10th.

My house is very warm for them, and I have the west end and east end boarded with two thicknesses of boards, and tar paper between. Since last July I built a chicken department, two houses, 8 x 10, with coops between attached, which are 6 ft. long for each building, giving the chicks outdoor runs, for I believe that keeps them out of the reach of cats, for no matter how cats are fed they are fond of birds and chickens. I have accommodations now for six separate hens to raise their brood, and protect them.

I set a hen in March, and you are aware of the cold weather we have experienced this spring up to date. I had bad luck for a beginner; but a bad beginning brings a good end, and if you only persevere you will conquer, never fear. Well, I suppose the eggs became chilled, for I never got a chick, and the hen was so disappointed I could see it in her eyes, and she was so persistent to continue to sit that I put eleven eggs more under her, and she hatched out six little kids, making

six weeks sitting. Of course she looked rather pale and careworn, but by good care and attention she came out all right, and now is as bright as a fox. I was greatly pleased at my first attempt. I have five sittings at present coming off this month, and if I have good luck I shall be richer by sixty-nine chickens.

You say that Rhode Island Reds are the best layers, but a friend of mine in ——— says he likes Plymouth Rocks best, and doesn't care for other breeds, and he has a great number of biddies. A neighbor of mine had a hen which stole a nest in his cellar with a concrete bottom, and late in the fall last year he was greatly surprised by seeing her march out with nine chickens from behind some barrels. What do you think of that?—on a cold stone floor? I keep my houses clean, putting in so often fresh loam and sand, give them plenty of green vegetables, fine grass and clover. They all eat out of my hand, and follow me all around, and when I am at work in my garden they are pecking through the fence slats to coax me for worms and June bugs I dig up. You don't want to misuse them or scare them, for kindness brings good results. I made a call on a friend Sunday in ———, and they had a new incubator in their front parlor, and as I had never seen one of those kerosene lamp boxes, I was interested in it, and I tell you those eggs look good enough to eat, so many of them all

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Some choice tested breeding stock now ready, the kind that will breed strong, vigorous prize winning birds. Prices right. Eggs for hatching.

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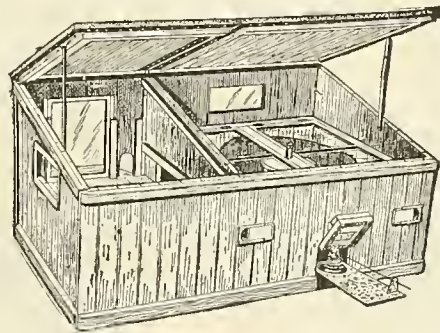
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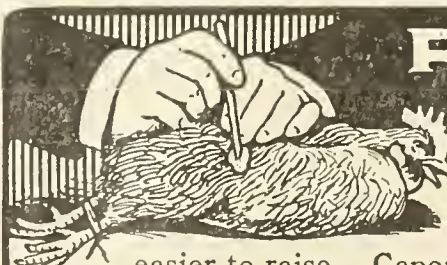
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in rows like peas in my garden. But give me the old-fashioned way, for the hen is good enough for me. I am feeding my chickens on meal, a little bird food mixed in with soft crackers, and a very little meat chopped fine. I never feed my poultry on whole corn, for I believe it is hard for them to digest. I give them cracked corn and oats mixed.

I see so many people who own poultry bring them up any old way, and kick if their hens are sick or don't bring good results; but they want good care and plenty of food—then they will lay good eggs and look fine. BEGINNER.

I hope this correspondent, to whose communication I have attached the signature "Beginner," instead of his own, will not take offense if I use his contribution as a text. Most people like to have their names associated in print only with things that are wholly agreeable to them, and I want to say a few things about this beginner's results and observations at which he might take offense if his name and address were used in this connection. He will please note that I have carefully suppressed whatever might lead to his identification, so there is no occasion to take anything that is said as personal, and I would like to have him and others look at this case, as I do, as a typical instance.

The record of 315 eggs from 15 hens in four and one-third months, instead of being very good, is very poor—only 203½ eggs per hen. It is not at all uncommon for 15 hens to lay more eggs than that in a month—even in one of the months included in the period covered in the above record. It is to "Beginner's" advantage to be informed of this, for as long as he thinks his poor record a good one he is not likely to begin to try to improve the conditions under which his hens are kept.

It may be that he is too kind to his hens, that they are treated too well, and fed too heavily. Whatever the cause, there is some reason for this poor egg yield, and he can make progress only

when he finds out how he can do better. "Beginner" does not feed whole corn because he believes it is hard for fowls to digest. What reason has he for thinking that? There are other reasons for not feeding whole corn under all circumstances, and the practical thing for beginners, and for all who have not acquired the information is to find out under what conditions whole corn may be fed to advantage. Possibly one may find that as he is situated it is not best to use it at all, but he ought to get at the real state of the case.

"Beginner" counts his chickens before they are hatched. He looks—if he has good luck—for 69 chicks from five hens. I wonder if he set the hens on fourteen eggs each, and to the date of his writing, just one egg had been broken. If he gets forty to fifty chicks from his five hens he will have about the average luck.

"Beginner" says the editor—or associate editor—says R. L. Reds are the best layers. Now I am very sure I never said anything of the kind, and quite as sure Mr. Smith did not. Still that statement may have been made in the paper—by someone who believed it. Readers should distinguish between editorial and contributed articles, and be careful to connect the name of the right person with an item which attracts their attention. Editors are not responsible for, nor do they vouch for every statement that appears in the columns they control. One of the functions of a poultry paper is to furnish opinions and information from all quarters. It is supposed that the reader will discriminate between the opinions coming from different sources just as he would at a meeting where opinions were verbally expressed by many different persons. It is sometimes annoying to a person to have opinions not his own attributed to him, but the real sufferer is the man who makes such mistakes, and I am inclined to think that mistakes of this kind are responsible for a good deal of the impression of confusion in printed opinions on poultry matters of which beginners so often complain.

his crops. Fiestel's wife effectually put a stop to that proceeding by poisoning the geese; but Fiestel was compelled to pay the value of the geese to their owner, the court saying, "Although the geese were trespassing, that did not warrant their unlawful destruction."

In Massachusetts a man asked his neighbor to confine his hens, which were running at large and doing damage to the complainant, and threatened to kill them unless they were confined. The owner refused to do so, and the complainant openly killed the hens with a stick, and laid them down in the owner's door yard. The court held that the act of killing the neighbor's hens was without legal justification; that he should have contented himself with his legal remedies of impounding the hens or bringing a suit at law; that notice to the owner of the hens that they would be killed if not confined, was merely a threat to do an illegal act, and was no mitigation of the offense. In Connecticut the owner of fowls was warned that they were doing damage, and that unless confined they would be poisoned. The owner heeded not the warning, and the complainant mixed poison with meal and scattered it on his land. The fowls ate of it and died. The court held that the complainant was not justified, and must pay the value of the fowls.

It has been heretofore suggested in the *Country Gentleman* that the most practical method of preventing the trespassing of fowls is to keep a well trained dog. It is well known that an owner or other persons entitled to the possession of real property may remove from it any animal or even a person who trespasses thereon, using, however, only so much force as is reasonably necessary to accomplish such removal. The general term of the supreme court of New York has held that an owner of land may drive off trespassing animals with dogs, and will not be liable unless they are vicious and unnecessarily bite and lacerate the animals, saying: "There was no evidence that the defendant did anything which he could not legally do in removing from his premises trespassing animals. To accomplish this object he had a right to call to his aid a dog as he did in this case. If the owner of the land should urge on to a trespassing animal an ugly and vicious dog, which should unreasonably and unnecessarily bite and lacerate such animal, he might be liable, but that is not this case." In a later case in the same court where it was admitted that the owner of real estate set his dog on trespassing cattle, the court said: "In the absence of any proof of the circumstances, or that the dog was an ugly one, that fact does not show any abuse of the cattle. A farmer may set a dog, if not ugly, under certain circumstances to aid him in driving trespassing cattle from his premises."

Should the owner of the property injured by marauding fowls prefer to bring the matter into court, he has one of three courses—that is, he may either sue the owner of fowls for the damage done by them, or he may bring an action for an injunction to compel his neighbor to restrain the fowls, or he may impound the fowls as he would cattle. But in the latter case he should note that the procedure for impounding cattle is usually regulated by statute, while that of impounding fowls is the old common law, a proceeding which is not so well known.

Another Experience With White Diarrhea.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—In the March 15 FARM-POULTRY, page 158, Mr. Walker gives his experience with white diarrhea. I don't think any one has had a worse experience than I have. Have had hatch after hatch nearly all die with it, and was getting pretty much discouraged with trying to raise chickens.

Have tried a good many different ways of feeding and dosing with drugs and acids in the drinking water, but always with the same result—they most all die with white diarrhea. But since feeding the following formula have had fine success, raising 95% of all chicks hatched.

When taking the chicks from the incubator dip their bills in water before putting them in the brooder for the first feed. In the morning give some of the prepared chick feeds, then at nine o'clock feed them the following feed: Two hard boiled eggs, two or three crackers, and two slices of dry bread. Put this through a meat cutter.

(shells and all). Then a tablespoonful of powdered charcoal, and stir all together.

At noon give the chick feed: at three o'clock give the same feed as at nine o'clock; for supper give the chick food.

Now if Mr. Walker or any one else will feed according to the above directions, I will guarantee him to raise 90% of all chicks hatched.

Give this feed for about four weeks, and then gradually omit the egg feed for the grain feed.

Now, Mr. Editor, if you will kindly give this room in your next issue I think it will be the means of saving the lives of a good many chicks.

I wish all who try this would report results in FARM-POULTRY. GOODWIN.

If Mr. Goodwin would tell us how he fed before, we could judge better whether his present method was really responsible for the results claimed.

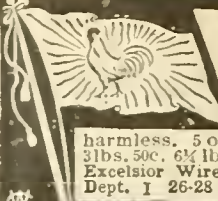
Trespassing Hens.

IN a recent issue of the *Country Gentleman* we find an article by Stedman & Stedman on the above subject, which puts the matter so simply and clearly that we reprint it.

The fence laws of New York and many other states preclude actions for damage done by any beast lawfully kept on the adjoining land, when the owner of the damaged property does not maintain his proportion of the fence; and in this state at least there is no statute compelling the erection of a fence sufficient to keep out fowls. We are therefore left to the common law to determine the rights and duties of adjoining property owners as to marauding fowls. It has recently been held by the court of appeals that "Every person whose rights are untrammelled by some statute, contract or prescription is entitled to the possession of his real property undisturbed and unmolested by others. Every man's land is in the eye of

the law inclosed and set apart from another's either by visible and material fences or by an ideal invisible boundary, and in either case every entry or breach carries with it some damages for which compensation can be obtained by action. By the common law it was as unlawful for the beasts of a neighbor to cross the invisible boundary line as it would be to overleap or throw down the most substantial wall." Marauding fowls, therefore, are trespassers, and the owner of them is liable for damages which they do on another's land. It is their owner's duty to keep them on his own property, and if he suffers them to run at large he does so at his peril.

The irate neighbor whose property is damaged must not, however, take the law into his own hands. A case arose in this state where a man named Fiestel had a neighbor whose geese were continually coming upon Fiestel's land and damaging



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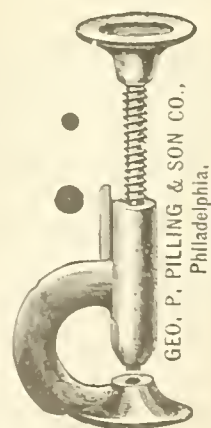
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